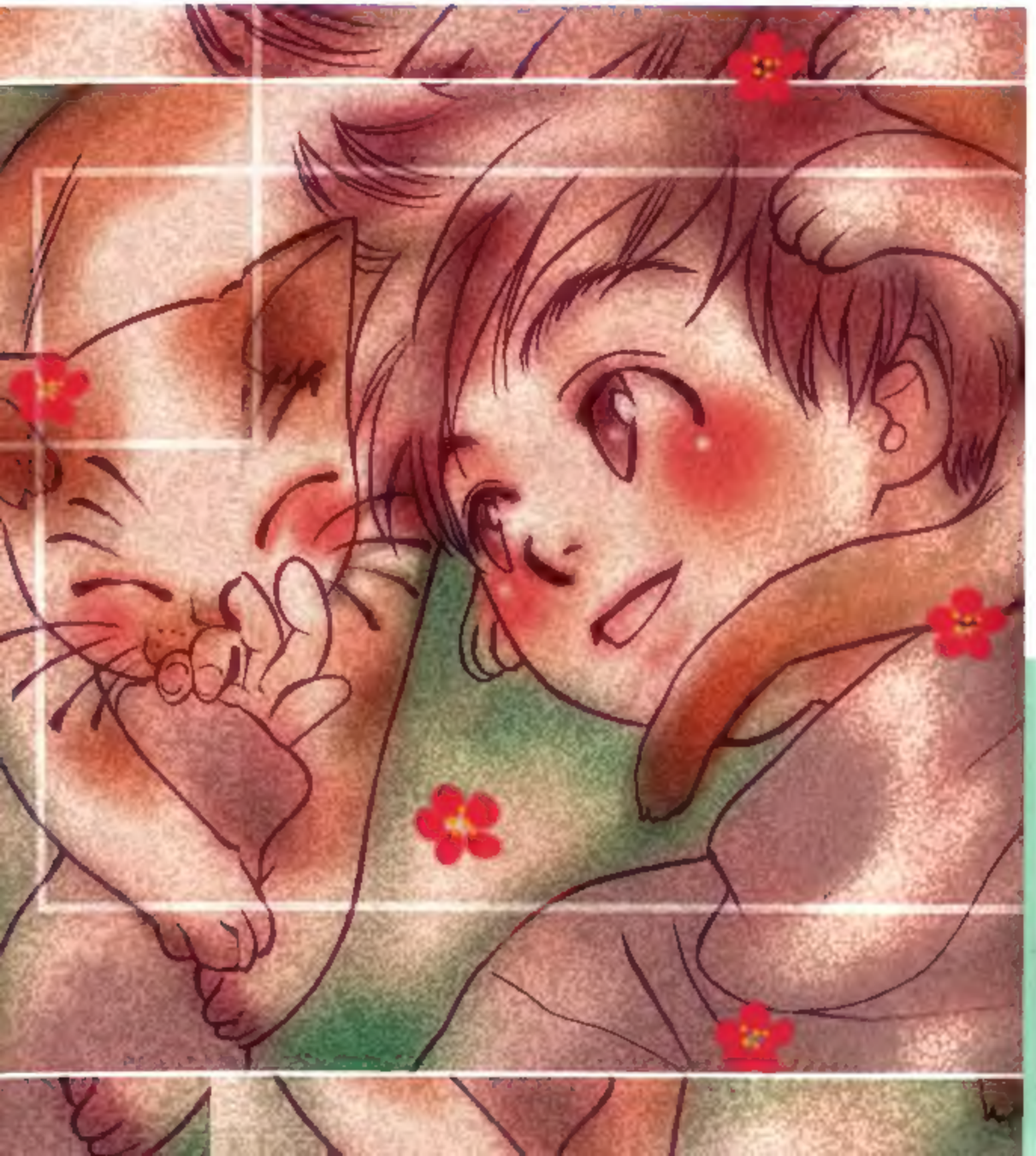
花とゆめCOMICS

BOKU WO TSUTSUMU TSUKI NO HIKARI

– EMBRACED BY THE MOONLIGHT –

SAKI HIWATARI 8



花とゆめ COMICS

BOKU WO TSUTSUMU TSUKI NO HIKARI

〔8〕

日渡早紀

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花とゆめCOMICS

>compilation<

Rin has asked Shion to disappear from Ren's life. Shion has accepted, but has two wishes he would like to convey to Ren first. What is his intention...?! Furthermore, there is someone in the Kobayashi household who is still bothered by something. What are the circumstances surrounding Kachiko's request to live in America with Mikuro?! The next generation sequel to PSM≡, Volume 8!

~Originally published in Bessatsu Hana to Yume~

●日渡早紀の本

——花とゆめコミックス——

偶然が残すもの—記憶鮮明II—
GLOBAL GARDEN　全8巻
ボクを包む月の光「ぼく地球」次世代編—　①〜⑧

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アクマくんシリーズ③アクマくん 魔法★B—TTER　全2巻

作品かいせつ

輪に蓮の前から姿を消すよう告げられた紫苑。了承した紫苑は一時的に木蓮と二人で蓮を預かり、彼の誤解を解くかのように、二つの願いを伝える。その真意とは——？一方、幸せいっぱいの小林家の中で落ちつかない様子のカチコ。父・未来路とアメリカで暮らすと宣言して…!?

花とゆめCOMICS

Boku Wo Tsutsumu Tsuki No Hikari

-Embraced By the Moonlight-

VOLUME 8

SAKI HIWATARI

ボクを包む月の光 by 日渡早紀

キャラクター紹介

木蓮

亜梨子の前世。紫苑と共に「守護天使」として小林家を見守っている。

紫苑

輪の前世。現在は「守護天使」として小林家を見守っている。

薬師丸未来路

カチコの父で、米EPIA勤務のエスパー。

薬師丸カチコ

蓮の幼なじみで父・未来路ゆずりESP能力を持つ。母親は未来路と同じEPIA勤務のエスパー、パメラ。現在は小林家に同居している。

「帽子の記憶」編 前巻までのSTORY

●輪から譲り受けた帽子から、輪の過去の情報を受け取った蓮は奇妙な言動を繰り返す。まるで少年時代の輪のように…。

●ある夜、蓮は紫苑（少年時代）の夢にうなされる。少年は大人になった輪を「小林輪は腑抜ケニナッタ…」と強く非難する…

●以来、蓮は自分こそが本当の小林輪であり、紫苑の意思を継ぐ者だと主張し、行動をエスカレートさせる。そして月基地にアクセスし「黒聖歌」を発動することを目論むのだが…。

●蓮の行動にかつての自分を重ねる輪は、紫苑に蓮の前から姿を消すよう懇願。紫苑は輪の発言に理解を示す一方、一時的に木蓮と二人で蓮を預かることを申し出て…!?

小林亜梨子（旧姓：坂口）

蓮の母。現在は輪と結婚し声楽家として活躍。植物の感情を解するなどの特殊な能力を持つ。

小林輪

蓮の父。かつては前世の記憶＝紫苑の意志に支配され苦しんだが、現在は亜梨子と幸せな家庭を築いている。作曲家（兼フリーター）。高いESP能力を持つ。

小林蓮

主人公の小学生。サイコメトリの能力に目覚め、輪の過去に大きな興味を持つが…!?

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This story is a work of fiction. Any resemblance of the events, names, personalities, places, or organizations in this story to actual names or events is coincidence.

Chapter 37

ぼくを包む月の光

BOKU WO TSUTSUMU TSUKI NO HIKARI

Memories of the Cap #17

WELL-MEM

Mmm...

Silence...

HARU-CHAN,

ARE YOU SURE THEY'RE OKAY LIKE THAT?! HASN'T IT ALREADY BEEN AN HOUR?!

HM?

...LIM...

...YEAH...

ER——...

MADE IT ON HIS OWN ACCORD.

NO, IT HAD BASE. IT'LL BE OKAY... I THINK.

HOW ABOUT WE DRINK SOME TEA? SEE, I PUT SOME ON.

WHY DON'T WE WAIT A BIT MORE?!

YOU MEAN YOU SAID ALL THAT ON NO BASIS?!

IT MIGHT NOT BE GOING WELL, HUH...? HEARING YOU SAY THAT - IS MAKING ME MORE AND MORE...

...

...

HARU-CHAN IS NOT HELPFUL AFTER ALL.

BUT TO CALL AN AMBU-LANCE AFTER ALL?!

...MAYBE WE HAVE NO CHOICE

IF THEY DON'T OPEN THEIR EYES?

WHAT'LL WE DO

Arrgh!

CAPUTSUN IS NORMAL,

BUT A SPECIAL KIND OF NORMAL.

If only I could call and ask Daddy— Aaahhhh, I can't!

KACHIKO,

I HAVE AN IDEA.

HUH?

Nods.

RIGHT.

YOU DIDN'T GET THAT?

BEING NORMAL IS SPECIAL, TOO.

CLENCHES

I THINK WE SHOULD BE THE ONES TO TRICK HIM.

ANYWAY,

DO WHATEVER I SAY, OKAY?

—REN.

IT'S OKAY NOW.

WHY DON'T YOU GENTLY OPEN YOUR EYES,

AND TAKE A LOOK AROUND?

HURRY AND HAVE A SEAT.

REN...! WELCOME.

WHY DON'T WE DRINK SOME TEA? AND EAT SOME CAKE, TOO?

I

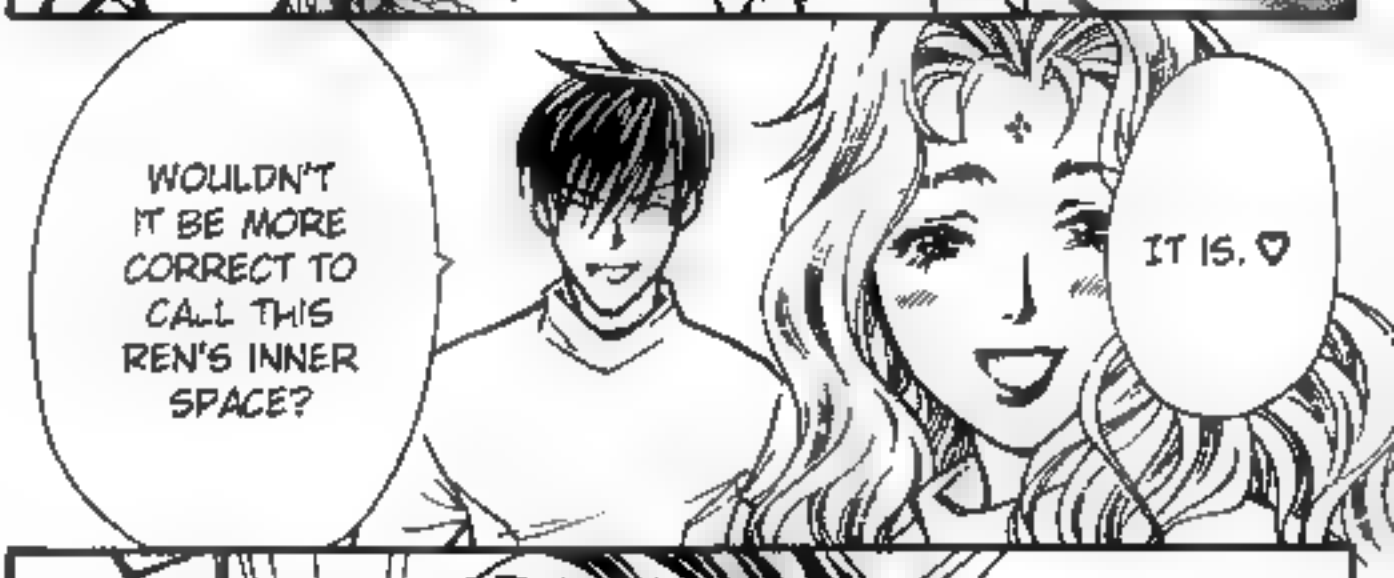
Hiwatari's Endless Chattering

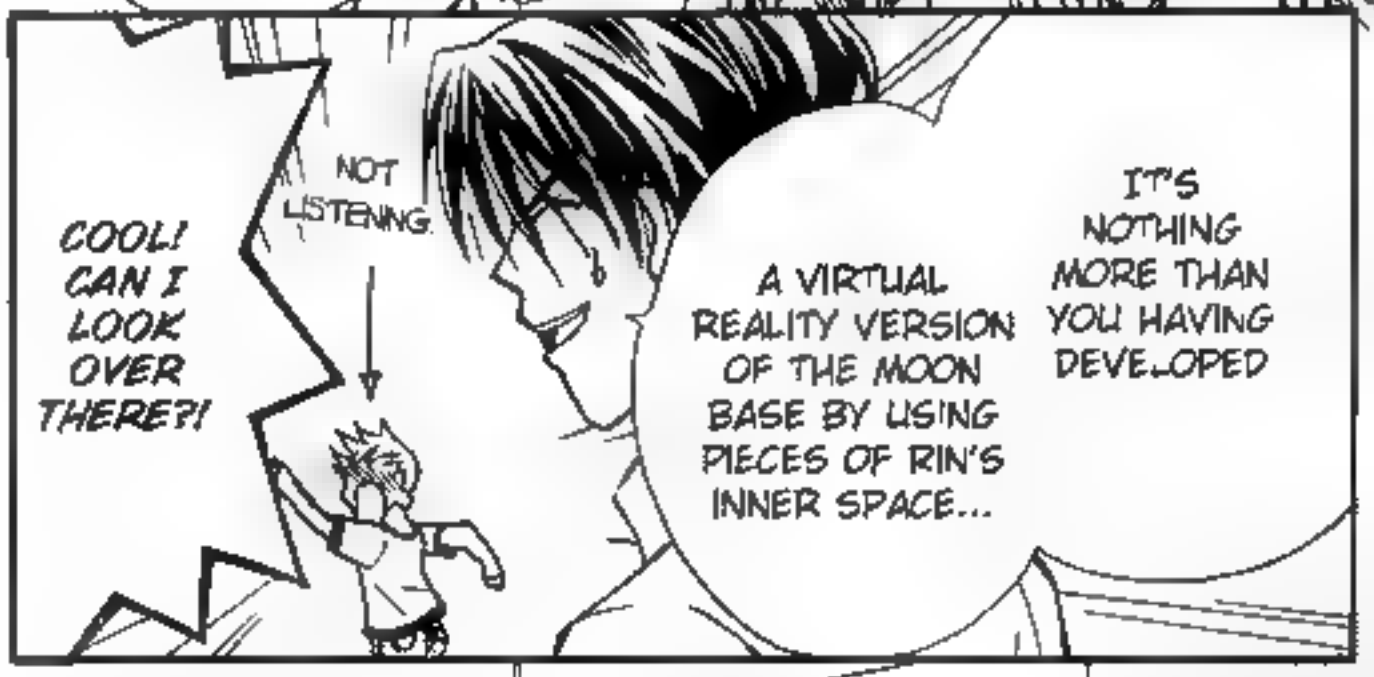
♥ 1 ♥

Hello ♥ How have you all been? Time sure does go by fast it's already almost 2ϕ1ϕ

Speaking of 2ϕ1ϕ, there's a sci-fi movie called "2ϕ1ϕ" In it, there's a scene where countless giant black Monoliths are swimming around the earth. But all I could think of when I saw them were black erasers or food I think this movie was the continuation of "2ϕϕ1 Journey to Outer Space" or something

Well, anyway I've been in this industry and drawing comics since 1981, so 2ϕ1ϕ will make 29 years for me




COOL! CAN I LOOK OVER THERE?!
NOT LISTENING.
A VIRTUAL REALITY VERSION OF THE MOON BASE BY USING PIECES OF RIN'S INNER SPACE...
IT'S NOTHING MORE THAN YOU HAVING DEVELOPED

IT'S THE EARTH.

AMAZ-ING.

AH, RIGHT.

REN, TAKE A LOOK OVER HERE.

IT WAS MY WORKROOM RIGHT UP UNTIL THE END.

YOU CAN SEE THE EARTH

FROM HERE, TOO.

I WAS DESPERATELY TRYING TO PREPARE THE SEVEN PASSWORDS.

YEAH. WHILE WATCHING THE EARTH,

...BUT IT WAS WORTHLESS.

WHAT'S THIS ROOM FOR?

WHOA,

WILL YOU FORGIVE DAD...?

...IKEMEN.

ON THE DREAM YOU BET YOUR LIFE ON...

EVEN THOUGH HE GAVE UP...

THAT'S NOT IT.

...I DON'T GET IT.

I WOULDN'T HAVE FOR-GIVEN HIM.

RIN ONLY STOPPED BECAUSE HE FINALLY REALIZED SOMETHING.

HE UN-LEASHED IT.

HE DIDN'T GIVE UP.

HAD ALREADY BEEN FULFILLED.

THAT MY WISHES

WHAT?

REALIZED SOMETHING...?

...HUH?

WHAT? HOW?

I DON'T GET IT!

IF SO, THEN,

YOU WANTED TO REMOTELY CONTROL THE MOON BASE

IN ORDER TO CONTROL HUMANITY, DIDN'T YOU?

THAT HASN'T BEEN FULFILLED AT ALL!!

REN, DO YOU UNDERSTAND THE GOAL TO CONTROL HUMANITY?

IT'S TO GET RID OF WAR, I KNOW THAT!!

BEING REBORN AS RIN... AND BEING BORN

BUT BEFORE THEN ON THE MOON BASE,

HOW LONG WOULD IT HAVE TAKEN RIN TO ACTUALLY REALIZE IT...

TO GRANT MY WISH, I DON'T EVEN KNOW...

I WAS HERE, ON THE MOON BASE,

LEFT TO SURVIVE.

IN JAPAN, A COUNTRY THAT HAD RENOUNCED WAR,

THAT'S RIGHT

I WANTED TO GO TO A WORLD WITH NO WAR.

MEANT THAT MY WISH HAD BEEN FULFILLED.

A WORLD WITH NO ONE ELSE BUT ME—

THERE'S NO MIS-TAKE.

WHAT I HAD WISHED FOR

WAS A WORLD WITH NO WAR.

ALMOST IRONICALLY...

I COULDN'T TALK WITH ANYONE.

THERE WAS NO SIGN OR SOUND OF ANYONE BUT ME.

AT TIMES, IT WAS LIKE THE SPACE WAS VOID OF EVERYTHING,

AND I DIDN'T EVEN FEEL LIKE I WAS ALIVE.

I WAS SO NOSTALGICALLY FOND OF IT, THAT I COULDN'T STAND IT.

NEVERTHELESS, WHEN I WAS WITH OTHER PEOPLE,

EVERYONE HAD THEIR OWN VIEWS THEY'D INSIST ON

AND TRY TO CONVINCE EVERYONE ELSE OF IT THROUGH LONG ARGUMENTS.

THERE WERE QUARRELS AND CONFLICTS.

ARE... ARE YOU SAYING THAT WE NEED WAR?!

YOU'VE ALREADY GIVEN UP ON THIS, TOO?!

"THE HAPPINESS TO BE ABLE TO MAKE WAR"

...DO YOU UNDERSTAND THIS?

IT'S THE FIRST THING YOU'RE ABLE TO DO WHEN THERE ARE OTHER PEOPLE—

THAT'S NOT IT. . REN.

HE WOULD REINTERPRET MY FINAL YEARS IN HIS OWN WAY,

AND BITE INTO IT DEEPLY.

"I MAY HAVE ONCE DECIDED THAT SHION'S GOAL WAS TO CONTROL HUMANITY WITH THE MOON BASE."

"BUT ACTUALLY..."

WHEN RIN ENTERED MIDDLE SCHOOL,

HE HAD BEEN UNTYING MY MEMORIES ONE BY ONE.

MANY TIMES, HE'D REFLECT ON THEM,

SWITCHING BETWEEN SUBJECTIVITY AND OBJECTIVITY.

"SHION'S REAL GOAL MUST HAVE BEEN

TO HURRY AND GET TO MOKUREN'S SIDE."

"AT THAT TIME,

HE HAD BEEN ABLE TO SEE IMAGES OF WAR TAKING PLACE ON EARTH."

"HE HAD PROMISED NOT TO KILL HIMSELF,

AND WAS ALL ALONE UNTIL THE END."

"ALL HE COULD DO WAS GO ON LIVING."

"IT'S NO SURPRISE THAT SOONER OR LATER,

THAT BECAME WHAT SUPPORTED SHION'S DESIRE TO LIVE."

THE PASS-WORDS."

"IN A FIT OF RAGE, HE HAD WASTED HIS DAYS TRYING TO GATHER

"LEAVING HIMSELF TO ANGER

WAS BETTER THAN THINKING ABOUT USELESS THINGS."

"HE MIGHT HAVE EVEN BEEN JEALOUS

OF THE EARTHLINGS WHO COULD CREATE WAR."

or even revenge.

What Shion wanted, wasn't control.

I get it now.

I'm pathetic.

I'm still trying to guess what Shion wanted.

He might have only wanted to be born into a normal world like that.

and be just as blessed as everyone else.

Marry Mokuren,

Maybe all he wanted was to be part of a community,

laugh like an idiot, cry sometimes,

make friends, and sometimes fight with them.

fault

But this probably

AREN'T HUMANS BAD?!

SO, ISN'T WAR SOMETHING HUMANS DO JUST BECAUSE?!

..IS...

IT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH MY DEATH,

REN.

THAT'S WHY THEY HAVE TO BE STOPPED...

I HAD NEVER ONCE THOUGHT TO MAKE RIN,

MY DEATH ON THE MOON WAS NO EARTHLING'S FAULT.

FOR SOMETHING THAT WAS NO ONE'S FAULT.

WAGE A WAR OF REVENGE

OR YOU,

FOR YOU

JUST HEAR THIS.

I WAS VERY HAPPY.

AND FOR SO KINDLY INVITING ME INTO YOUR HEART,

TO TAKE SUCH AN INTEREST IN ME,

I WAS... VERY HAPPY.

THANK YOU.

Hiccup...

Nn...

...you to... only... wanted..

I... I o

...to... ...smile.

DRIPS DRIPS

Nn...

Uu...

RIN... SAYS THE SAME THING NOW.

GEEZ...

...YES... I KNOW.

YOU SAY... THE SAME THINGS AS RIN...

PRETTY LADY---! PRETTY LADY, I NEED TO SAY GOOD-BYE TO YOU, TOOOO!

Poor thing.

SINCE YOU CAN'T SEE IKEMEN ANYMORE...

MAKE SURE YOU SAY ALL YOUR GOOD-BYES, REN.

POKES

WHAT!

REAL-LY?!!

UFUFU. ACTUALLY,

HE ONLY SAID HE'S NOT SUPPOSED TO SEE YOU UNTIL YOU GROW UP A BIT MORE.

IT DOESN'T MEAN YOU'LL NEVER SEE HIM AGAIN.

REALLY. SO

NO ONE SAID ANYTHING TO ME ABOUT NOT SEEING YOU.

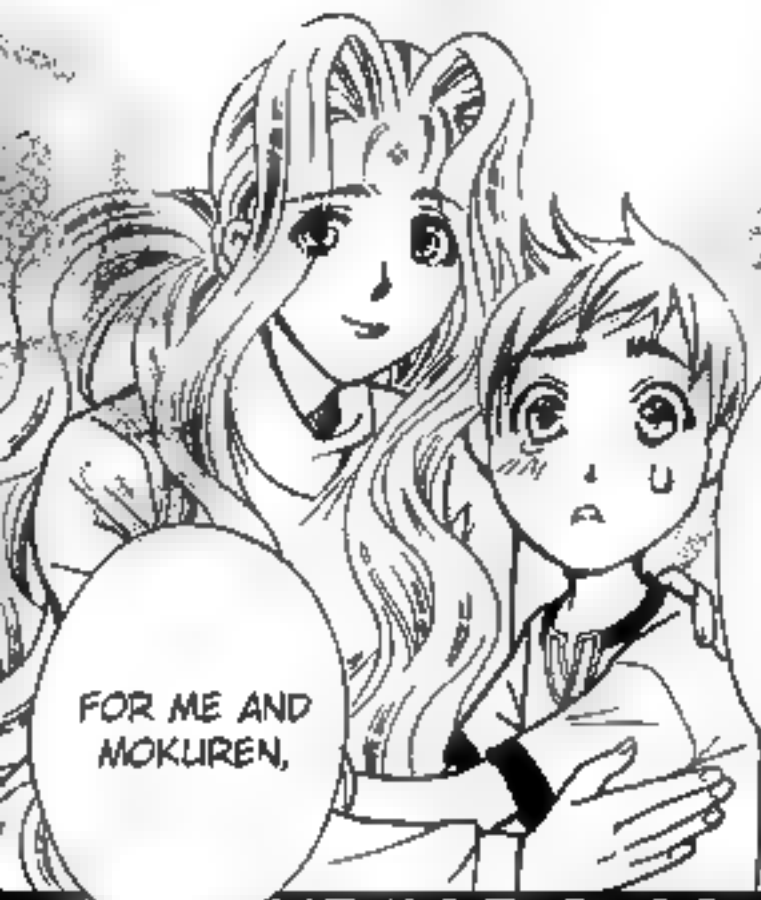
OH NO, I'M FINE.

WAS THAT YOUR INTENTION ALL ALONG?!

ACK!

BUT CERTAINLY, IT'LL BE LONELY.

I THINK HE MIGHT HAVE BEEN MEDDLING TOO MUCH.



...REN.

THERE ARE TWO THINGS I HOPE FOR FROM YOU.

FOR ME AND MOKUREN,

LIVE YOUR LIFE TO THE FULLEST

ON THE EARTH

THAT I LONGED FOR UNTIL I DIED.

THIS IS THE FIRST THING.

I WANT YOU TO GROW UP UNCON-STRAINED...

SO WE'LL JUST PART FOR A LITTLE WHILE, REN.

BECAUSE IT IS A PARADISE OF FREEDOM.

WAR IS A CHOICE THAT PEOPLE MAKE,

THE SECOND IS...

TO GO DOWN THE PATH OF WAR.

REN, I DON'T WANT YOU

BUT IN THAT PARADISE,

OUR EARTH.

BECOME SOMEONE WHO TAKES THE PATH OF PROTECTING THE EARTH...

OKAY!

I PROMISE!

WILL BE SOMEONE WHO PROTECTS THE EARTH...!

I

...REN'S INNER SPACE HAS GOTTEN COMPLETELY SUNNY AGAIN.

...WHAT?

Nya Nya

SEEING SHION-SAN'S SMILE AND ALL.

WHAT? AREN'T YOU MR. SENTIMENTAL~~ STILL FEELING TOUCHED?

ATCHE

Pops!

...

REN!!

Sunken

I... GOT SENT BACK...

AAHH...

YEAH... I DID...

DID YOU. MAKE SURE TO SAY GOOD-BYE...?

...

DAD,

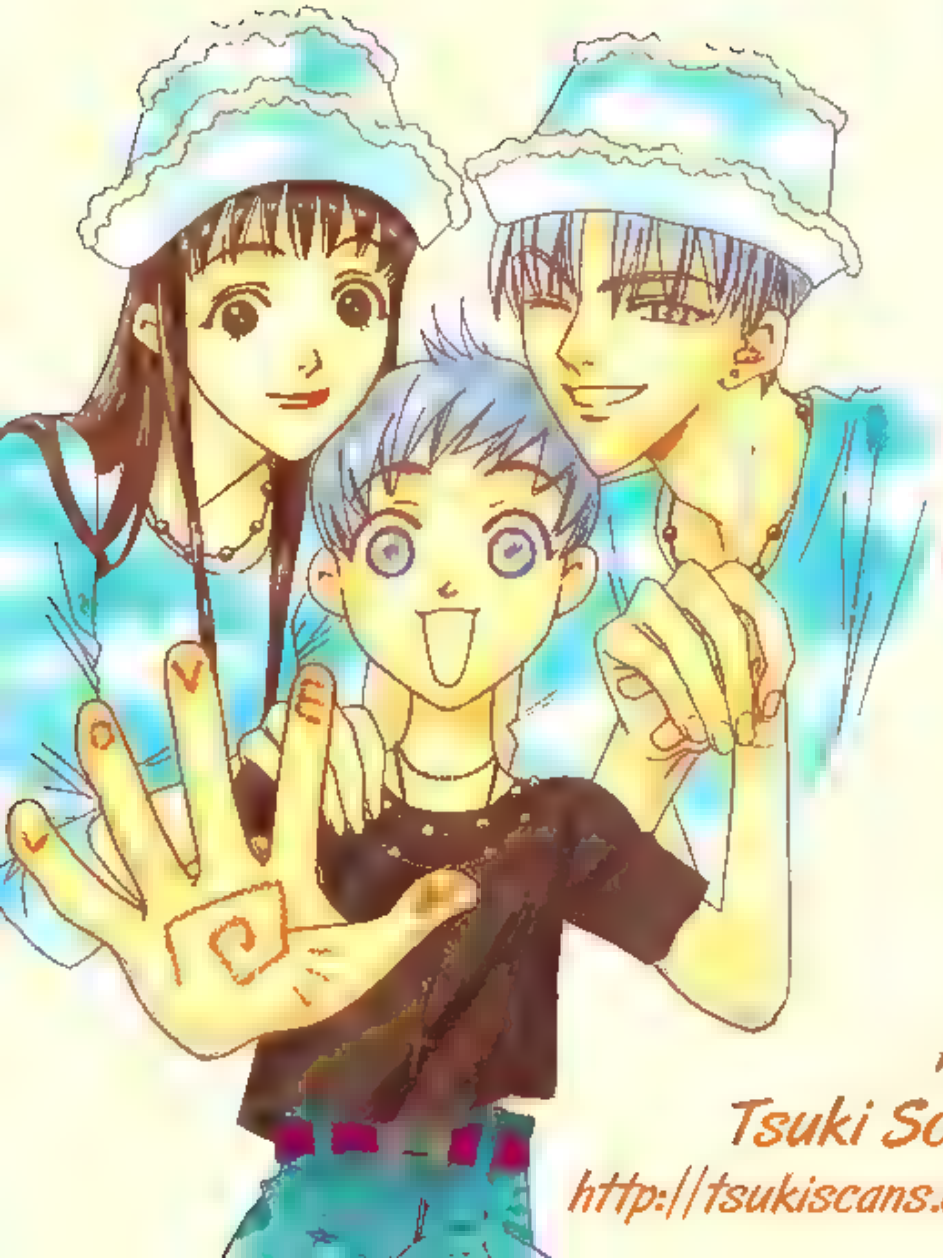
I'M

A LOT LIKE YOU.

IKEMEN SAID SO.

...I DON'T REALLY KNOW WHY, BUT...

THAT MADE ME HAPPY.



Boku wo Tsutsumu Tsuki no Hikari

Embraced by the moonlight

By Saki Hiwatari V08 ch37

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ESTHETIQUE NEEDS YOU TO HELP SAVE THIS CUTE LITTLE FELLA! DO YOU THINK YOU HAVE WHAT IT TAKES?

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IMAGE FROM ME AND MY AINIA BY RYAN

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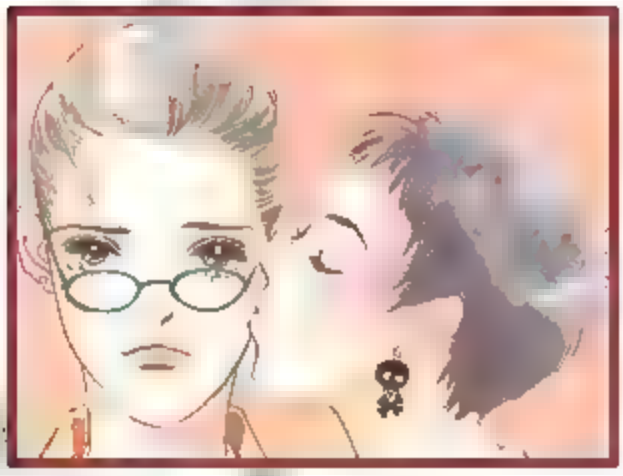

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Chapter 38

Memories of the Cap #18

ANYWAY, KACHIKO.

TRY SAYING, "I LIKE NORMAL GUYS" TO REN.

...WHY?

JUST GIVE IT A SHOT, WE'RE TRYING TO TRICK HIM!

Hiwatari's Endless Chattering

♥ 2 ♥

It's a miracle that I've been able to continue working as a mangaka, as opposed to anything else for 29 years especially since I'm not exactly a genius artist or writer. Nonetheless, you all do me the favor of reading my work. There is no way I can thank you enough.

Really, thank you very much ♥ Would you all mind if I backtrack a bit?

"Boku wo Tsutsumu Tsuki no Hikari" is the sequel to "Boku no Chikyuu wo Mamotte." I started writing it in 2ϕϕ3, so this makes it seven years. At the start, Ren was 7 years old, and now he's 8. Time really does fly.

SINCE THIS IS REN'S INNER SPACE...

DOESN'T REN JUST NEED TO WAKE UP?

HOW SHOULD I WAKE UP?

?

OH.

THEN WAKE UP, REN.

WAKE ME UP

LIH, I WASN'T THE ONE WHO LEAD THAT...

SEE THE FINAL VOLUME OF "DSME"

HEY, WHEN YOU ALL WENT INSIDE OF ME,

ERM ...

UH .. HOW DID WE GET BACK?

...BY THE WAY.

THAT I'M A SPECIAL KIND OF NORMAL.

JUST HOW ARE WE SUPPOSED TO GET HOME AGAIN?

UM...

YEAH, THERE WAS THAT HAD TO HAVE BEEN THE EXIT.

WASN'T THERE A.. DOOR OR SOME-THING?

...AH.

AH...?

HEY,

CAN YOU HEAR SOME-THING?

FROM OVER THERE...

LIKE NORMAL

THE CLOUDS BECOME WORDS... HOW CUTE ...

AND IT'S IN KANSAI DIALECT...

KACHIKO-CHAN...?

NORMAL'S COOL...

N... NORMAL'S GREAT...

ANYWAY...

WHY NORMAL?

NO, YOU HAVE TO SAY IT MORE! SAY NORMAL IS GOOD!

CAPUTSUN, COME ON. THIS IS STUPID.

WHAT'S THE MEANING OF THIS, ANYWAY?

DIDN'T REN'S DAD SAY THAT NORMAL IS SPECIAL?!

RIGHT NOW, REN THINKS

THAT BEING "SPECIAL" IS COOL.

RIGHT NOW, HE'S PROBABLY

IN A COOL WORLD.

SO I, THE MODEL OF NORMAL,

SHALL BREAK THAT COOL, SPECIAL WORLD!

IF I PUT MY GUTS INTO IT, I'LL BE ABLE TO MAKE HIM COME BACK.

NO, I FEEL LIKE I MIGHT GET IT~~ A LITTLE.

I DON'T GET IT.

REN.

I LIKE NORMAL BETTER.

HURRY UP AND TELL REN THAT NORMAL IS BETTER!!

HUUUUH?!

I LIKE IT A TON!

KACHIKO, JUST SAY IT!!

IT'S ALL RIGHT IF YOU DON'T GET IT,

THAT'S A LIE.

Meh—

HE AN-SWERED...!!

HE SPOKE...!!

ISN'T MIKURO-OJISAN YOUR IDEAL?

YOU'VE GOT A FATHER COMPLEX!!

HA!

WHAT'S SO *NORMAL* ABOUT A GUY SO FULL OF ESP LIKE THAT?

DON'T MAKE ME LAUGH!

THIS MIGHT BE YOUR WAY OF GETTING US HOME.

REN!

FOCUS MORE.

WHAT IF KACHIKO HAD JUST BEEN SPEAKING TO YOU FOR REAL?

YEAH, MAYBE.

WOR-RIED?

WHAT THE HELL?!

SHE'S WORRIED ABOUT YOU, SO SHE MIGHT HAVE BEEN CALLING OUT TO YOU.

THAT'S RIGHT!

THAT DAY WHEN YOU WERE STAYING HOME FROM SCHOOL—

IT'S TRUE, REN!

KACHIKO SAID SHE LIKES ME!

AT THAT TIME,

KACHIKO

WHILE YOU WERE BUSY PLAYING IN THAT SPECIAL WORLD,

KACHIKO MIGHT HAVE BEEN FALLING IN LOVE WITH ME.

GIRLS ARE REALISTS! THAT'S WHY THEY LIKE NORMAL GUYS.

DIDN'T YOU KNOW THAT?

ERK...

IS THAT FINE WITH YOU?!

CRIED ON MY SHOULDER.

WHA... WHAT? THE GROUND'S SHAKING!

ALICE, WATCH OUT!

Rumbling

HUH?!

KYA...!

Rumbling

Rumbling

HEAR SOME-THING...

Rumbling

HUH ...?

I THINK I...

Rumbling

Rumbling
Rumbling
KACHIKO SAID SHE LIKED ME?
Rumbling
Rumbling
THIS TIME IT'S CAPUT-SUN.
OH.
Rumbling

BUT IT'LL PROBABLY WORK.

—I'M GOING BACK.

KACHIKO SAID SHE LIKES REN!

カチコちゃんがレンくんのこと好きって言ってた!?

...THAT'S CAPUTSUN'S MESSAGE, ISN'T IT?!

NO WAY... WHAT A SHOCK...!

STUPID, WHY ARE YOU SHOCKED?

BECAUSE REN LIKES KACHIKO-CHAN...

THAT'S WHY WE SHOULD BE GRATEFUL.

YEAH, BUT,

IT'S A THREAD BACK HOME. .

Rumbling

REN, LOOK!

LOOK OVER THERE, ISN'T THAT A DOOR?!

IT'S A DOOR!!

AT THE BOTTOM OF THE CAPUTSUN PILLAR!

I'M GOING BACK!!

IF YOU DON'T DO WHAT YOU NEED TO, WE CAN'T GO BACK EITHER.

Dashes

...
NGH
...!

Creaks

...
NNAAA
...!!

NNH
...!

FLINCHES

FLINCHES

FLINCHES

Swush

IT'S A LIE.

THERE-FORE..

!!

.....!

...DON'T WORRY

HUH...?

IT—

IT WAS CAPUTSUN'S TACTICS!

I... I DIDN'T REALLY GET IT!

Stupid, huh?!

REAL-LY. ?

Erk!

YEEES!

I'LL HELP, TOO.

GOOD WORK EVERYONE, YOU MUST BE HUNGRY.

I'LL FIX US A LITTLE SOMETHING. HOW ABOUT SOME TEA?

UGH, SORRY ABOUT THAT.

OH, I SEE.

OH

...AH!

HARU-KUN, YOU CAME. THANKS...

NO, I WASN'T VERY HELPFUL...

GOOD JOB.

THANKS, YOU *ARE* PRETTY SPECIAL.

CAPUT-SUN,

WELL...

IT LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE ALL OKAY...

IT'S KINDA LATE, SO HOW ABOUT STAYING OVER TONIGHT?

HUH? BUT...

I WANT YOU TO, CAPUTSUN.

I...

HAVE A MOUNTAIN OF THINGS TO TELL YOU ABOUT.

...GOT IT.

That day—

That night—

I smashed my box of secrets against the floor.

It was like

I went on tellin'

Caputsu...

about everything I had seen.

Everything I had heard. Even though he seemed surprised sometimes.

Besides a few responses, Caputsun listened silently.

IN THE END,

I COULDN'T DO ANY-THING.

THAT'S NOT TRUE,

BECAUSE

I'LL PROMISE TOO,

RIGHT NOW.

I'LL BE SOMEONE WHO PROTECTS THE EARTH.

ANYTHING.

It goes from Dad to me,

and from me to Caputsun.

That's why,

what Dad did wasn't useless, was it...?

taken
Dad's cap

off myself.

—AH!!!

I FORGOT.

.....

?

Stomps

Stomps

Stomps

Stomps

IT'S IM-PORTANT!

FOR MOM!!

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRETTY LADY!!

WHAT?

A MES-SAGE FROM THE PRETTY LADY—!

I FORGOT I HAD...

MOOO-OOOM!

Pats Pats

YEEES, WHAT IIIS IIIT?

ARE YOU LIS-TENIIIING?!

YES, I'M LISTENIIIIING.

Pats

Pats

SO SHE SAID TO TAKE CARE OF YOURSEEEEEELF!

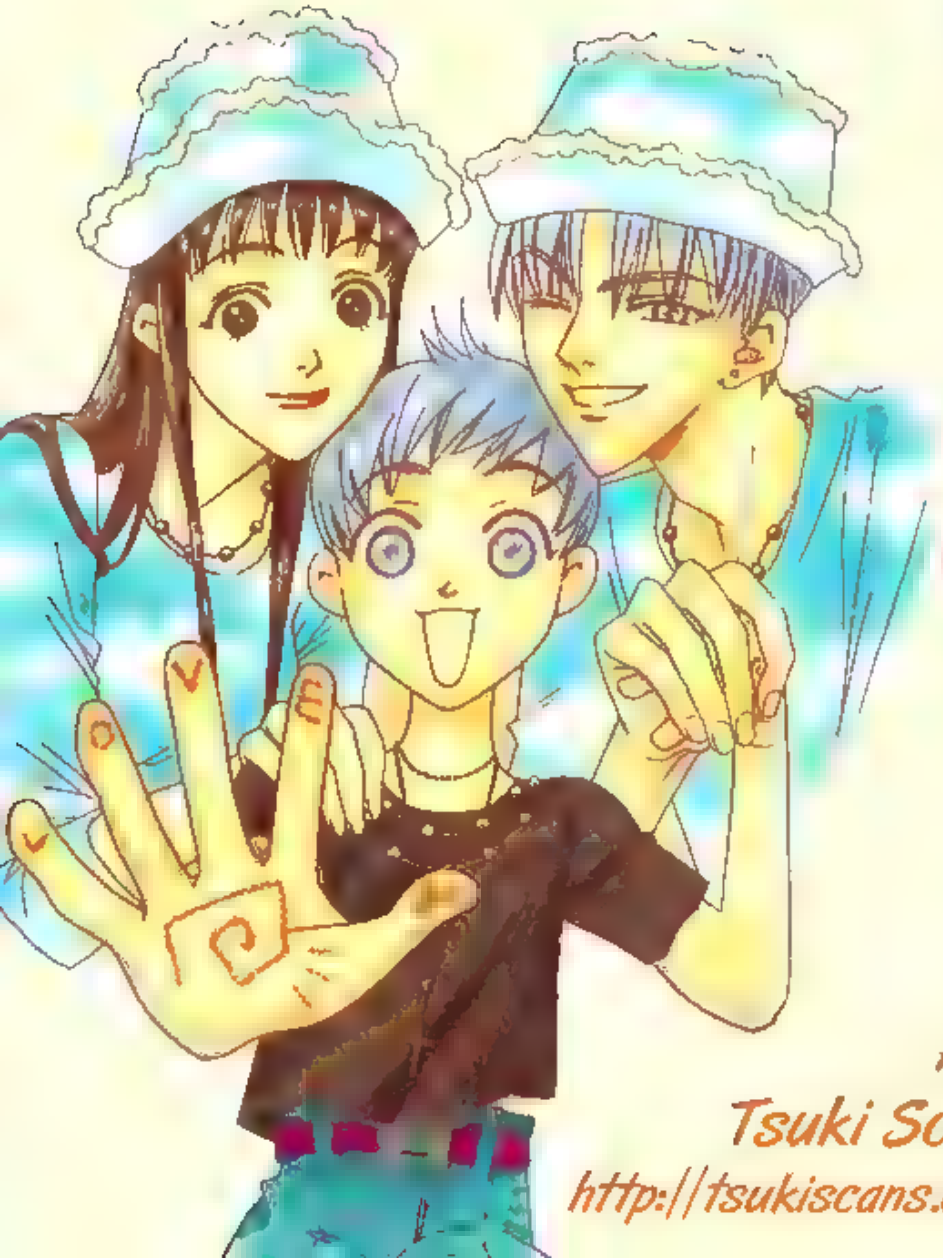
RIGHT NOW, INSIDE OF YOU,

MY LITTLE SISTER HAS ALREADY BEEN ON STANDBY FOR TWO MONTHS,

WHA

MEMORIES OF THE CAP

THE END



Boku wo Tsutsumu Tsuki no Hikari

Embraced by the moonlight

By Saki Hiwatari V08 ch38

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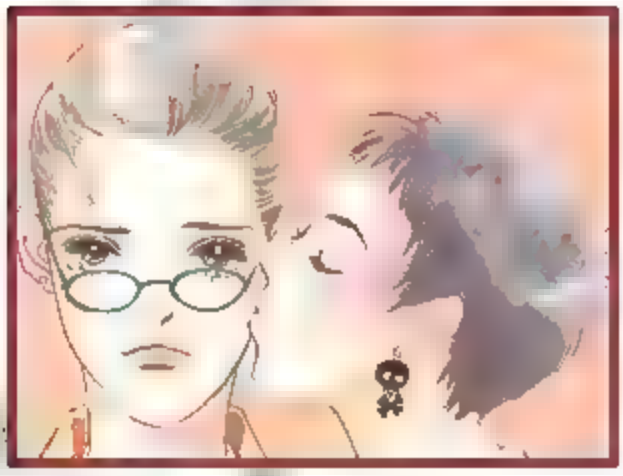

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Chapter 39

Kachiko's Circumstances #1

had been thinking about at the time—

hadn't realized at all—

what Kachiko-chan

Waaah

Kyahaha

CHIRP-ING

CHIRP-ING

Tell her to take care of herself,

because your little sister has been on standby inside of her for two months—

Ren,

when you get home, tell Alice this.

That

was the Pretty Lady's message,

and shortly after telling everyone,

we found out for sure.

Kick

THE LOOK ON OJISAN'S FACE WAS PRICELESS!

BUT YOU KNOW, WHEN YOU TOLD OBASAN ABOUT THE BABY,

Hiwatari's Endless Chattering

3

"Memories of the Cap" was pretty thick with "Boku-Tama"* references. Actually, I thought that in the original "Boku-Tama" Rin's motives weren't completely fulfilled, so I really liked writing this part.

Also, there wasn't a lot of attention given to the distinctions between 8-year-old Rin and Shion. That's why at the end, Rin looks up at the moon with a glazed over expression. or at least that's what I always thought.

The years have passed, and Rin and I have both grown up in our own ways, and I thought I'd write a story like this. It's a long time lag between the two series, but I hope the advantages outweigh the disadvantages.

*T/N. Boku-Tama is the nickname for PSME.

CICADA CRY
CICADA CRY
OBASAN WAS FROZEN STIFF, TOO.
SPINNING HIS WHEELS AND EVERY-THING, AHA-HAHA!
YEAH, WASN'T HE IN A STATE OF SHOCK?
IT SURE WAS FUNNY— THEY WERE LIKE A COUPLE OF COMEDIANS.
Bonk
WHOA!
IT'S REALLY HIGH!
AH, THE BELL IS GOING TO RING, LET'S GO.
CICADA CRY
CICADA CRY
YEAH.

OH, REALLY?

Bweh

MORNING SICKNESS? SHE'S BEEN THROWING UP.

Bweh

SO SHE WENT TO GRAND-MA'S HOUSE.

HUH? SHE'S NOT AT HOME RIGHT NOW? WHY?

UNGH.

BUT I ALREADY MISS MOM'S COOKING.

...

I'M SICK OF DAD'S FOOD.

EVERY MORNING, WE ONLY HAVE FRIED EGGS.

Bing

Bong

SCRATCH

SCRATCH

AND AT DINNER WE JUST HAVE A MIX OF STUFF.

KACHIKO'S CIRCUMSTANCES

Bong

Bing

I KNOW.

Bing

Bong

IT'S RINGING, KACHIKO!

Bong

Bing

Bong

AHH, REN!

KACHIKO-CHAN!

YOU CAME.

MOM, WERE YOU ABLE TO EAT ANYTHING TODAY?

YEAH.. I THINK I WAS ABLE TO EAT... SOME TOMATO...

SMACK

JUST SAYING "TOMATO" MADE HER SICK

SORRY... IT'S NO GOOD...

I'LL GO GET YOU SOME WATER!!

OH NO... ISN'T THERE ANYTHING YOU CAN EAT?

THERE'S NO HELPING IT, THAT GIR...

Tink

IF IT GETS ANY WORSE... SHE MIGHT HAVE TO GO TO THE HOSPITAL AGAIN, THOUGH...

IF THAT HAPPENS, WE'LL DEAL WITH IT THEN.

WELL, SHE'S REALLY STUBBORN ABOUT THAT KIND OF THING.

EVEN THOUGH SHE KNOWS HOW HARD IT WAS GIVING BIRTH TO REN,

AND WON'T LISTEN TO A THING.

NOOOO MATTER WHAT SHE SAYS SHE'LL HAVE THE BABY,

I'VE ALWAYS BEEN THE ONLY ONE SUFFERING.*

"THINGS SURE ARE EASY FOR RIN-KUN.

OH, I KNOW WHAT NEECHAN'S *REALLY* THINKING.

DON'T ADD "-KUN".

Pweh!

YOU'LL GIVE BIRTH THEN, HAJIME-KUN?

So you know how it is, right?

I'M FOLDIN' LAUNDRY.

HUH?

WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE I'M DOING?

KACHIKO-CHAN,

OH, HERE, GIVE IT TO ME.

BUT... I CAN'T DO IT VERY WELL...

ARGH, WHAT THE...

SIGH...

OBASAN WAS...

THE ONE WHO ALWAYS DID THIS...

WRONG.

ISN'T IT LIKE THIS?

Big dress

drop

MINE LOOKS BETTER THAN THAT.

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

MARIO CART, MARIO CART!!

LET'S PLAY WII!

"MARIO KART"

THEN JUST LET DAD DO IT!

...HEY, REN...

I...

WHAAT?

WHEN I'M DONE.

Silence...

SIGHS

HM? WHAT? DID YOU SAY SOMETHING?

I'M GOING TO THE BATHROOM, BUT...

NNNNN, I DIDN'T SAY ANYTHING.

HEY, CAPUTSUN.

WHO DO YOU THINK OF WHEN YOU LOOK AT ME?

?

FLIPS

TAP

TAP

TAP

TAP

TAP

Squeezes

Squeeze Squeeze Squeeze

NOTHING'S CHANGED FROM USUA., RIGHT?

WHY?

HEY.

RECENTLY YOU SAID THAT...

YOU...
YOU'RE USING WORDS THAT MEAN SOMETHING DIFFERENT...

SO THEN WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?

Bloorgh!

YOU EMBRACED ME, DIDNTCHA?

HEY, IF YOU, PERHAPS,

REALLY MEANT THAT AND SAY YOU LIKE ME...

IN YOUR BED TONIGHT.

I'M FINE IF WE BOTH SLEEP

?

Ah.

OK/NO

!!!

STUSSY

NO!

THIS ISN'T WHAT IT LOOKS LIKE!

OK/NO

OK/NO

NO—

NOBU-YUKI!

Zoom!

WAIT UP!

NOBU-YUKI!

IT'S PRET-TY CLEAR, NOBUYUK...

NIKE

REN!!

BAD NEWS!!

KA-CHIKO IS IN LOVE WITH CAPUTSUN!!

SHE'S GONNA STAY AT HIS PLACE NOW!

AN' THEY'RE BOTH GONNA SLEEP IN HIS BED!!

Whaaaaaaat?!

MRGH.

THAT'S A LIE.

ARE YOU STUPID, NOBUYUKI?

SOU DAK

KACHIKO, REALLY?!

YOU'LL BE SLEEPING TOGETHER IN HIS BED?!

YOU'RE IN LOVE?! WITH CAPUTSUN?!

Smack

NOBUYUKI!!

PUBLIC HUMILIATION

I WON'T FORGET THIS, NOBUYUKI

IT'S NOT TRUE, RIGHT, KACHIKO-CHAN?

I KNOW! I HEARD IT!!

SIGH

WE DIDN'T SAY THOSE THINGS.

That's beside the point

AND SHE SAID SHE LIKES HIM, AND SHE LOVES HIM...

THEY KISSED,

STOP IT, NOBUYUKI, YOU'RE CAUSING A FUSS.

CAPU-TSUN.

SHOULDN'T YOU HURRY UP AND CONFESS?

WHY'S THAT, NOBUYUKI~~

WOOT WOOT!

YEAH, YOU'RE THE ONE FUSSING THE MOST!

CONFESS!

CONFESS!

CONFESS!

CONFESS!

GEEZ, I'M NOT FOLLOWIN' THIS ANYMORE.

WHY'S IT LIKE THIS NOW?!

CAPU-TSUN.

Over here.

Over here.

REN!

I DON'T KNOW WHY, THOUGH.

THAT KA-CHIKO ASKED TO STAY OVER AT MY PLACE!

I'LL ONLY TELL YOU, BUT IT'S TRUE

.....HUH...?!

I WAS THINKING ABOUT IT, THOUGH.

KACHIKO-CHAN.

WAIT UP!

LET'S GO HOME TGETHER! WE'RE JUST GOING TO THE SAME PLACE ANYWAY...!

SHE MIGHT HAVE BEEN CUT OFF HALFWAY,

BUT SHE MIGHT HAVE REALLY WANTED TO ASK ABOUT SOMETHING ELSE.

SEE .. IT MIGHT HAVE BEEN BECAUSE

YOU SEEM TOO CLOSE.

SHE MIGHT HAVE WANTED TO HAVE A DISCUSSION

OR SOMETHING LIKE THAT.

BUT EVEN SO... WHEN YOU GET HOME,

COULD YOU ASK HER?

OKAY?

...OKAY.

LATER!

...BYE. .

Caputsun's amazing...

Kachiko-chan...

I hadn't noticed it all... that something was bothering Kachiko-chan.

HEY, KACHIKO-CHAN, TODAY...

WHAT... WAS THAT ABOUT...?

SURE, I'LL HAVE SOME!

CAN I COME IN, KACHIKO-CHAN?

I BROUGHT SOME WATER-ME_ON, YOU WANT SOME?

DAD CUT IT.

I JUST THOUGHT I'D TEASE CAPUTSUN,

BUT NOBUYUKI MESSED IT UP.

A JOKE.

YEAH, WHAT ABOUT IT?

REALLY?!

RE.

creak

MIKURO'S HERE, KACHIKO! IT'S MIKURO...!

AH, YEEEES? WHAT IS IT, OCCHAN?

KNOCK KNOCK

I DON'T KNOW.. I CAN'T FND OUT...'

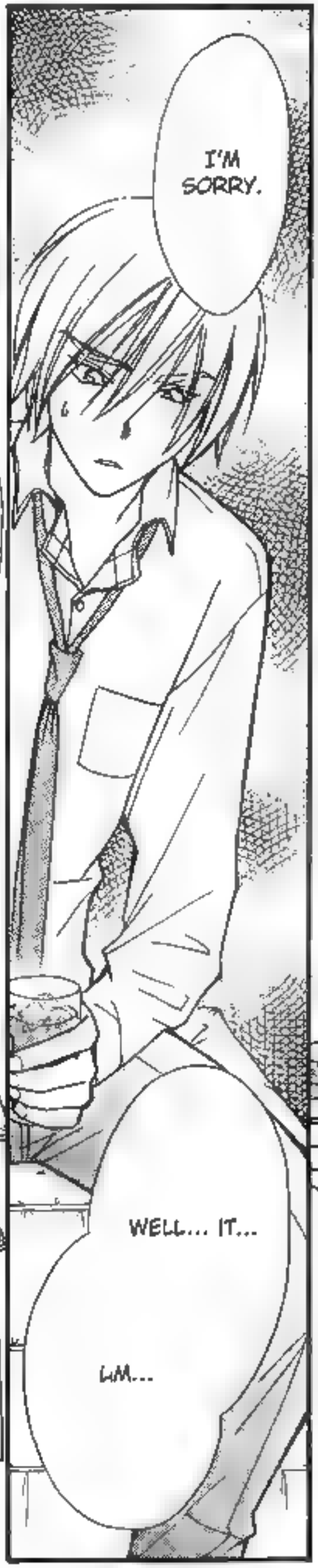
WHAAAAAT?!

I'M LATE.

...SORRY.

KACHIKO.

I ASKED HIM T' COME!
AND...
SINCE DADDY'S NOT GOOD AT TALKING ABOUT STUFF,
I'LL EXPLAIN. WELL, IT'LL BE A LITTLE ABRUPT, BUT...


I'M SORRY.
WELL... IT...
UM...

...AND?
WHAT'D YOU COME FOR?
HERE, SOME ICED COFFEE.

THANK YOU SO, SO MUCH FOR TAKIN' CARE OF ME ALL THIS TIME!!

I'M GONNA BE LEAVING.

WHY?!

WHA...

SO IT'S ONLY NORMAL THAT I GOTTA CLEAR OUTTA MY ROOM TO MAKE SPACE!

WELL, THAT'S BECAUSE THERE'S GONNA BE A NEW BABY.

THAT'S NOT IT! I'M GRATEFUL. FOR REAL!!

BUT, IT'S TOUGH FOR OBACHAN RIGHT NOW.

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT, KACHIKO!

IF IT'S JUST ABOUT SPACE, YOU KNOW WE'VE GOT OTHER ROOMS!

SHAKE SHAKE

IT'S WRONG T' MAKE HER HAVE T' KEEP AN EYE ON A BURDEN LIKE ME ANYMORE THAN THIS!

DON'T WORRY ABOUT STUPID STUFF LIKE THAT! STAY IN WHATEVER ROOM YOU WANT!!

FAMILIES SHOULD BE ALLOWED TO LIVE WITHOUT OUTSIDERS... THIS WHOLE TIME,

IT'S BEEN WRONG FOR ME T' STAY HERE!!

NO! I JUST THOUGHT MY STUPID DADDY WOULD FINALLY *DO* SOME-THIN' IF I DID THAT!!

THAT'S WHY YOU WANTED TO STAY AT CAPUTSUN'S?!

THAT'S WHY I SENT DADDY A MESSAGE THAT HE SHOULD HURRY UP AND GET OUTTA HERE!!

AND THE REPLY I GOT WASN'T THE LEAST BIT ENCOURAGING!!

STUPID?

OCCHAN'S PLACE HAS ENOUGH ROOMS,

SO DON'T WORRY, HE SAYS,

OR THAT I CAN ALWAYS GO HOME

TO HOKUTO-ANCHAN'S PLACE, HE SAYS.

!

WHAT ABOUT YOUR ONLY PRECIOUS DAUGHTER?!

I'M JUST A BURDEN EVEN TO *YOU*!!

EVEN WHEN I SAID THAT I WANTED TO GO TO AMERICA TO BE WITH HIM,

WHAT D'YA THINK HE SAID?!

Grrrr!

I'M STILL ALIVE! I'M ALREADY PRETTY MUCH HOMELESS!

EVEN IF YOU PUSH ME TO THE WAYSIDE,

...KACHIKO!

DON'T TOUCH ME, OLD MAN!!

SO I'LL BE LEFT ALONE, SO NO, HE SAYS!

HE'LL ALWAYS BE BUSY WITH WORK AND IS NEVER IN THE APARTMENT,

WHAT THE HELL IS IT WITH SAYIN' THIS NOW?!

I'VE ALWAYS BEEN ALONE!

AH!

Pops

TO

DO MAKE SURE NOT TO LET THE DOOR HIT YA ON THE WAY OUT.

FAREWELL*.

Kachi-kooo!

*T/N: This is actually a very seldom-used Kyoto phrase. a more literal translation would be "please try your hardest to make sure you go"

I'LL LOOK FOR HER TOO...

D-

DAD!!

Swhp

...HUH?

Ssh

CHINK

Creaks

...KACHIKO-CHAN...

JUST LEAVE 'IM!

DIDN'T MIKURO-OJISAN JUST GO LOOKING FOR YOU...?!

Heh heh

I KNEW IT.

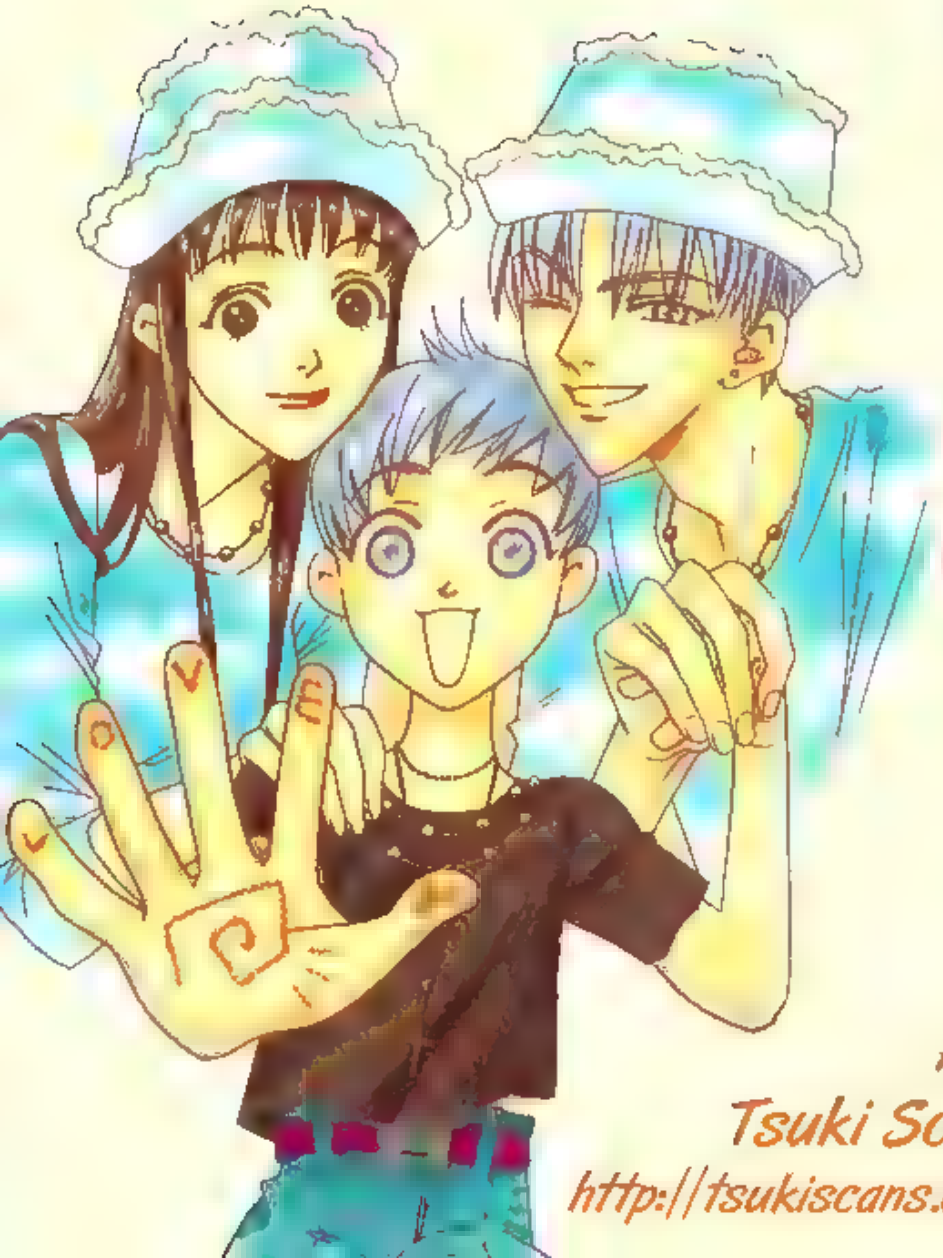
IT'S FINE WITH ME IF HE BECOMES A LITTLE LOST KID.

JUST LET 'IM PROWL AROUND IN THE WRONG PLACE.

I'LL GO GET 'IM LATER.

HUH...

hmm.



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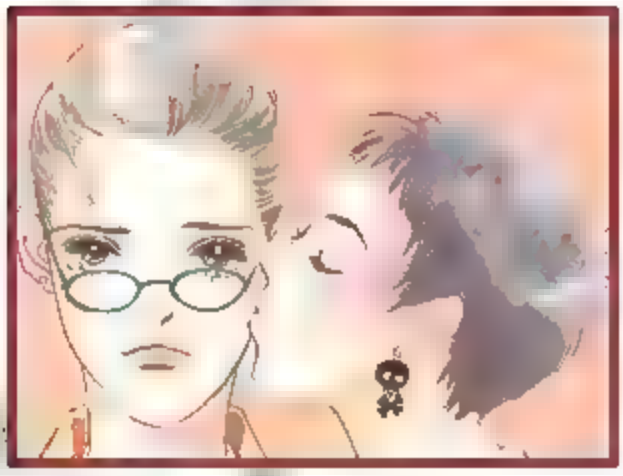

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chapter 40

kachiko's circumstances part#2

Toucodes

KACHIKOOOOO!!

Hiwatari's Endless Chattering

4

And then I thought I wanted to write a more difficult story about Yakushimaru Mikuro's inner feelings here in "Kachiko's Circumstances."

By the way, in the magazines, "Memories of the Cap" and "Kachiko's Circumstances" had a one-shot printed between them. But here in the volume, they're printed continuously so thank you for your understanding. The story about Rin's middle school years will be included in the following volume ♥

As for the plan for Mikuro, this story turned out to have some aspects that were a bit different from "Gunsen ga Nokosu Mono*" (laughs)

Manga certainly is mysterious reading material. it's like raw food. yes, it's alive.

T/N: "It's a short story that was included in Kioku Sennei. It also contains 2 other short stories related to PSME that was released after PSME and tells a story about what happened to Mikuro after PSME ended.

Sullen

Oh, my

YOU KNOW HER SO MUCH BETTER THAN I, HER FATHER, DO.

WELL~~ THAT'S NO SURPRISE, SINCE I LIVE WITH HER.

Heh!

IT'S JUST A MATTER OF HER LIKES AND DISLIKES.

SINCE YOU LIVE APART, OF COURSE YOU WOULDN'T KNOW THAT.

KACHIKO WAS THE ONE WHO SAID SHE WANTED TO LIVE WITH REN-KUN,

SO I.....!

BECAUSE WHAT KACHIKO REALLY WANTS

IS TO LIVE WITH YOU IN AMERICA.

NNN—

MAYBE I REALLY SHOULD HAVE SAID NO BACK THEN,

HUH?

WHEN YOU SAID THAT HOKUTO AND TOMOKO-SAN GOT MARRIED

AND YOU WANTED TO HAVE KACHIKO LIVE WITH REN SO THAT IT WOULDN'T BOTHER HER.

WE HAD A DISCUSSION, DIDN'T WE?

YOU PRESSED YOUR FACE TO THE TABLE AND SAID THAT THE ONE PLACE WHERE YOU COULDN'T HAVE HER LIVE WAS AMERICA WHERE THE EPIA IS.

OTHER THAN THAT, YOU DIDN'T GIVE US ANY INFORMATION.

WELL... ISN'T THAT ABOUT IT?

YOU STAYED AWAY A BIT NOW.

COME ON.

RIN-KUN,

YOU REMEMBER... HOW I WAS BORN FROM A SURROGATE MOTHER?

YEAH?

KACHIKO IS...

JUST LIKE ME.

SHE WAS A CHILD BORN OF A SURROGATE MOTHER.

YEAH.

ISN'T THAT NORMAL?

KACHIKO-CHAN..

YOU WANT TO GO TO AMERICA WITH MIKURO-OJISAN...?

I DON'T WANT THAAAAT!

WHAAA AAAT...

ISN'T THAT BECAUSE I KNEW YOU'D BE OPPOSED TO IT?

Well that

AND WHY WERE YOU GOING

TO TALK TO CAPUTSUN ABOUT IT~~?

CLUNK

AH! THEY'RE HOME!!

OH.

WELCOME BACK.

REN,

KACHI-KO AND MIKURO-OJISAN HAVE SOMETHING IMPORTANT TO TALK ABOUT NOW BY THEM-SELVES.

YOU COME HERE, AND DON'T GO IN KACHIKO'S ROOM, OKAY?

HEY, DAD.

IS KACHIKO-CHAN...

GOING WITH MIKURO-OJISAN?

I TOLD YOU NOT TO BOTHER THEM, DIDN'T I? COME DOWN HERE.

REN!

SHE MIGHT BE.

YEAH.

REN.

SOUTH DAKOTA

HOW I LIKED MOM SINCE I WAS 7 YEARS OLD.

YOU KNOW

HAHAHA, THAT YOU DID.

STUPID BRAT...

Why bring that up all of a sudden?

I KNOW, I DID A BUNCH OF PSYCHOM-ETRY ON YOU.

DO YOU LIKE KACHIKO?

IT TOOK A REEEEALLY LONG TIME,

BUT I REALLY DID LIKE HER THE WHOLE TIME.

...YEAH.

HOW MUCH DO YOU LIKE HER?

ENOUGH TO MARRY HER?

EH?

UH...

THERE MIGHT COME A TIME WHEN YOU LIKE ANOTHER GIR... YOU AND KACHI-KO ARE BOTH STILL REALLY YOUNG.

FROM HERE ON OUT,

YOU'LL BOTH MEET A WHOLE BUNCH OF OTHER PEOPLE.

I DON'T KNOW WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN!

BUT,

FOR THE TIME BEING...

I DON'T WANT TO BE APART

FROM KACHIKO-CHAN...!

I WANT TO GO HELP HER WHENEVER SHE CRIES,

AND I WANT TO LISTEN TO HER WORRIES.

KACHIKO-CHAN DOESN'T TALK ABOUT THAT, THOUGH...

SO ALL I CAN DO IS STAY BY HER SIDE.

I'LL TELL YOU SO THAT YOU HAVE NO REGRETS!

...ALL RIGHT!

IT WAS THE SAME WITH YOU, OF COURSE.

YOU KNOW THAT BABIES CAN'T JUST BE BORN AS AN EGG, RIGHT?

LISTEN WELL SO THAT YOU UNDERSTAND, ALL RIGHT?

BUT IN KACHIKO'S CASE, IT WAS A LITTLE BIT DIFFERENT.

Kachiko

FIRST, KACHIKO'S EGG

A

WAS MADE WITH MIKURO'S SEED

AND MOTHER A'S EGG.

RIGHT NOW,

YOUR MOM HAS A BABY GROWING INSIDE OF HER.

THAT'S YOUR LITTLE SISTER.

ORIGINALLY SHE WAS DAD'S SEED AND MOM'S EGG, BUT THEY FORMED INTO ONE TO MAKE THE BABY'S EGG.

SHE HAS TO GROW INSIDE OF MOM FOR ABOUT NINE MONTHS BEFORE SHE CAN BE BORN, THOUGH.

AND THEN KACHIKO WAS BORN.

B

...WAS PUT IN ANOTHER... WAS PUT INTO MOTHER B,

AND SHE GREW INSIDE OF HER FOR ABOUT NINE MONTHS,

AND THEN... KACHIKO'S EGG

SPECIAL DELIVERY

SO YOU MEAN—

...YES.

THERE WERE... TWO MOMS?!

THEN,

WHO'S THE MOM THE EGG CAME FROM?!

WHERE'S SHE?!

EVEN

MIKURO DOESN'T SEEM TO KNOW THAT.

IT SEEMS TO BE...

THE ONE SHE WAS RAISED

INSIDE OF.

LIKE MIKURO-OJIGAN?!

YES.

THEN...

WHO'S THE PERSON KACHIKO-CHAN CALLS MOM?!

SOUTH

...I DON'T GET IT!

WHY?! WHY?! HUH!!

SHH!

YOUR VOICE IS TOO LOUD...!

...!

DRIP

...I...

DRIP

DRIP

DRIP

DRIP

SOUTH DAKOTA

DRIP

DRIP

THERE'S A MARKET FOR BABY EGGS.

IN THIS WORLD,

AS LONG AS THERE'S MONEY INVOLVED, MASSES OF EGGS AND SEEDS ARE JUST BOUGHT AND SOLD.

THE PLACE WHERE MIKURO WORKS

IT'S THE KIND OF CONDITION THAT IF ADULTS LIKE MIKURO WANT TO WORK THERE,

HAS A HAND IN A COMPANY THAT DOES THAT.

THEY HAVE TO PROVIDE THEIR OWN SEEDS AND EGGS,

OR THEY AREN'T ALLOWED TO WORK.

IT SEEMS THAT THERE'S A CONDITION.

...YOU MEAN...

AT SOME POINT IN TIME, KACHIKO WAS MADE

...WHA...

Yank

WHY THE HELL ARE YOU WORKING AT A SHADY PLACE LIKE THAT!!

AREN'T THERE PLENTY OF OTHER PLACES YOU COULD HAVE WORKED?!

Without mentioning a certain someone, this has no persuasive power

.. IN AN OFFICE?

...THERE WAS NO OTHER PLACE...

Gyaaaaaah!

WHERE I COULD HAVE WORKED...

DON'T GIVE ME THAT EXCUSE!! I'M NOT LISTENING!

THAT IS CERTAIN!

THE DNA TEST WILL PROVE THAT SHE'S MY DAUGHTER!!!

—SO...

IS KACHIKO REALLY

EVEN YOUR DAUGHTER?!

Though it took a lot

SAID THAT HAVING HER STAY IN JAPAN WAS BEST.

BESIDES, PAMELA, THE MOTHER WHO GAVE BIRTH TO HER,

Sinking

THANK TO REN,

I HAD BEEN KEEPING HER FROM GETTING INTERESTED IN COMING TO AMERICA...

SUDDENLY FIRED UP

I WILL NOT HAND OVER THE OFFICE'S HANDIWORK TO THEM!!

ARE YOU GOING TO MAKE THE KID RESENT US?

DUMB-ASS!

JUST SAY IT!

I WILL DEFINITELY NOT GIVE THEM THE SATISFACTION

OF SEEING WHAT KIND OF STRANGE CHILD THEY'D GET WHEN MIXING ME AND A WOMAN WITH A HIGH-LEVEL ESP FACTOR!!

YOU'RE AFRAID OF KACHIKO

FINDING OUT THAT SHE HAS TWO MOTHERS!!!

Whirrsh

THAT'S RIGHT.

WANT HER TO KNOW.

I DIDN'T

I DIDN'T WANT HER TO KNOW.

I DIDN'T WANT HER TO KNOW.

...I DIDN'T WANT HER TO GO THROUGH THE SAME PAIN

...THAT I DID... I DIDN'T...

...WANT TO HAVE HER GO THROUGH THAT...

MIKURO,

THAT'S ENOUGH.

BUT THAT'S ENOUGH.

WAS JUST HOW IMPOR-TANT KACHIKO IS TO YOU.

REALLY, ALL I WANTED TO KNOW

THAT MUCH IS CLEAR.

GOT IT?

HAVE SOME CONFIDENCE.

HOWEVER–

NO MATTER HOW MUCH YOU SEARCH THE WORLD,

THERE'S NO MISTAKE THAT YOU'RE HER ONE AND ONLY FATHER!

YOU KNOW

THAT WHAT KACHI-KO HATES

IS SEEING YOU SUFFER ALL ALONE LIKE THAT, RIGHT?

YOU'RE BELITTLING HER.

Erk

AH.. ER,

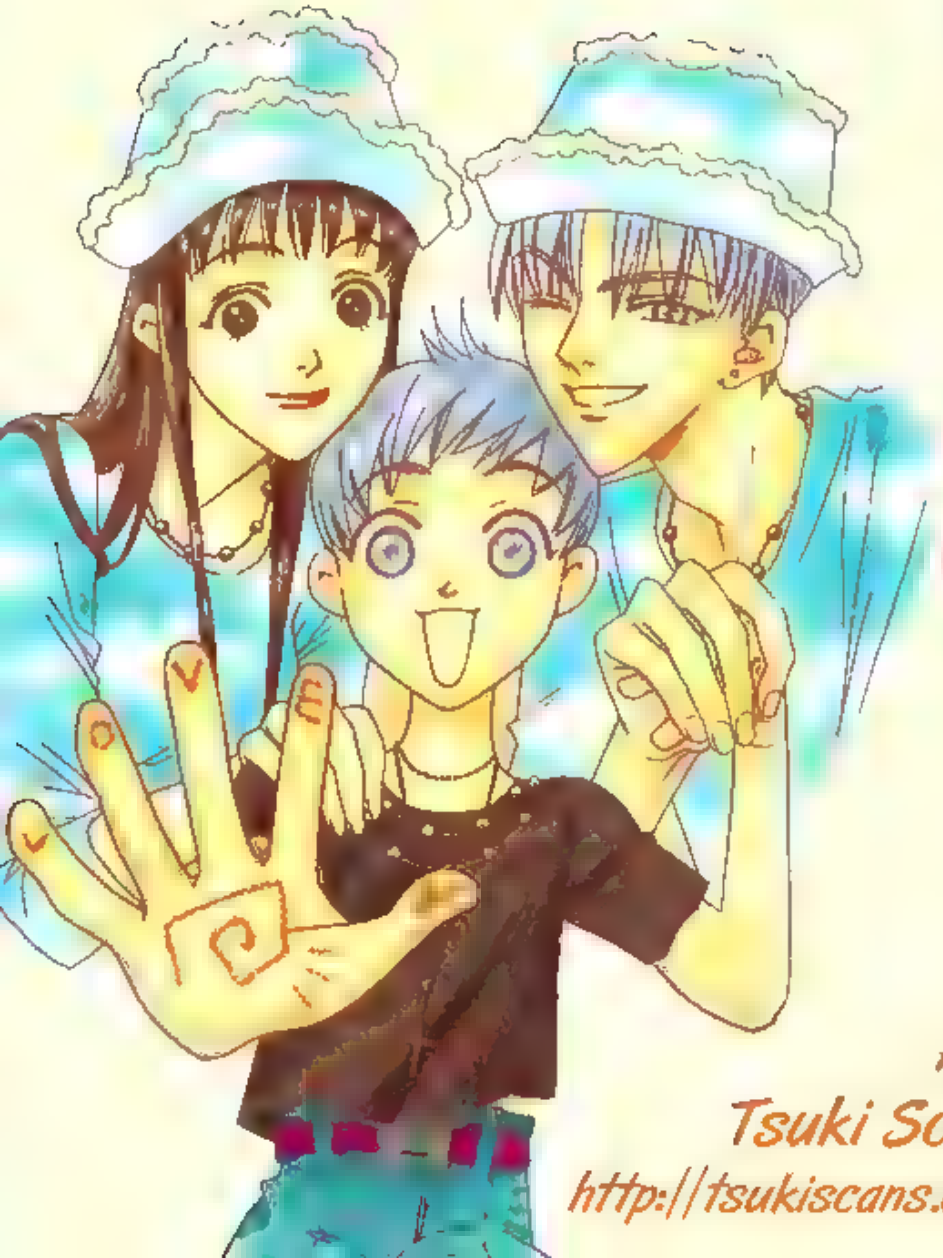
NO, I...! SEE,

LIKE NOW,

I JUST KIND OF KNOW—

UH... KACHIKO'S LIKES... AND DISLIKES...

...BETTER?



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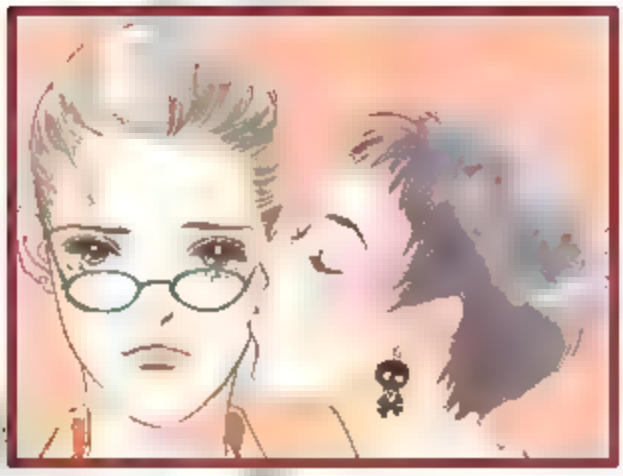

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Chapter 41

Kachiko's Circumstances #3

IT SURE IS QUIET...

...SURE IS...

しーん。

silence.

SOUTH DAKOTA

I WONDER

IF KACHIKO-CHAN IS OKAY...

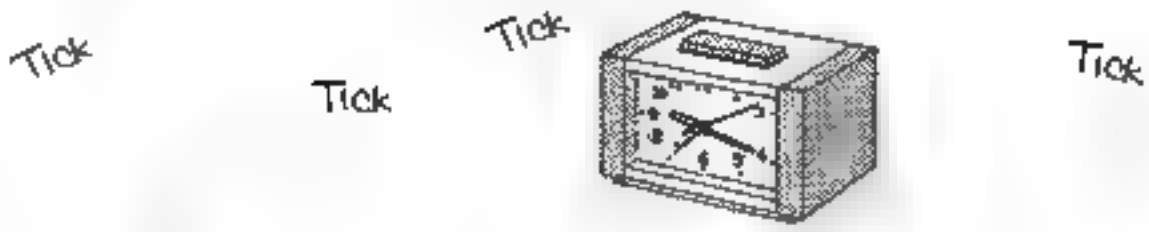
Hiwatari's Endless Chattering

5

When I was younger, I planned for his story to be a little more cool but now that I've gotten older I look back on those plans and burst out laughing about how amateurish those plans were so that's why I decided to get some fresh ingredients to work with But once you put something aside, it sometimes pickles nicely

To me, Yakushimaru Mikuro is a pickled character, and it was about time to serve him at the table

As for Kachuko, when I wrote "Guusenn" I didn't even have an inkling that Mikuro would ever have a child



HEY, DADDY.

...I LOVE YOU.

WHAT-EVER IT IS, IT'S FINE.

WEREN'TCHA THE ONE WHO SAID YOU HAD SOMETHIN' TO TALK ABOUT?

Irritated

Irritated

Irritated

ISN'T IT JUST GONNA GET WORSE IF YOU DON'T SAY ANYTHING?

ISN'T IT BAD TO EAVESDROP?

SHUSH.

Tick

Tick

Tick

Tick

NGH.

KACHIKO...!

DA..

DADDY...?!

WHY ARE YOU CRYIN' ...?!

EH...

KACHI-KO—

CLINK

HUH...?

HE WON'T BE ABLE TO SAY ANYTHING NOW.

MIKURO'S SPENT.

YOU WANT HER TO HEAR IT FROM ME?

WELL, MIKURO?

..WHAT... IS IT?

IT'S NOT FAIR, TELL ME!

WHAT?! WHAT IS IT?!

AH...

Contact telepa-thy...?

JUST HOW MUCH DO YOU THINK THAT MOM...

THE FUNERAL IS ALREADY OVER.

WHAT WERE YOU THINKING WAITIN' THIS LONG!!

HOW DARE YOU COME BACK HOME NOW!!

Smack

HOW MUCH DO YOU THINK THAT MOM WORRIED...

SHE WORRIED ABOUT YOU RIGHT UP UNTIL THE END...

Ka-chi-ko.

took well.

...This is a story

from 9 years ago—

DON'T COME HOME ANYMORE.

GET LOST!!

IT'S FINE! AT TIMES LIKE THIS, IT'S BETTER TO USE JAPANESE.

It's many speech!

...WOULD YOU PLEASE QUIT USING THE WEIRD JAPANESE YOU LEARNED FROM MINE?

YOU'RE BACK, MIKURO ...!

I HEARD, YOUR MOM KICKED THE BUCKET, DIDN'T SHE?!

IT'S GOTTA BE TERRIBLE FOR YOU.

had been kinda looking after you

I HAD ALWAYS KNOWN

ABOUT YOUR ABNORMAL, DEEP, STRANGE LOVE FOR YOUR MOTHER.

Abnormal, deep, and strange—

TO THOSE OF US WITH TWO MOMS,

TONIGHT'S GOOD FOR A DRINK.

POOR THING, BETTER FEEL BETTER!

IT'S JUST SOMETHING YOU DECIDED ON YOUR OWN.

Clink

ISN'T ONE OF THEM THE STATUE OF LIBERTY?

YOU SAY YOU'VE GOT TWO MOTHERS, BUT IN YOUR CASE...

BECAUSE THE STATUE OF LIBERTY WATCHED OVER ME,

WHICH MEANS THAT,

I WON'T LOSE TO THAT. MY BIRTH MOTHER CAST ME AWAY UNDER THE STATUE OF LIBERTY...

OH?

TOO PROUD OF YOUR OWN MISFORTUNE?

THE STATUE OF LIBERTY IS THE MOTHER THAT RAISED ME, RIGHT?! GOT ANY COMPLAINTS?

...NONE.

...WHY DIDN'T YOU GO HOME SOONER?

IF YOU DID, YOU COULD'A FULFILLED YOUR FILIAL PIETY...

I WENT HOME, AND I WAS... JUST AT A LOSS FOR WHAT TO DO.

...IT WAS ABOUT FIVE YEARS AGO.

ABOUT MY FEELINGS...

AND I WAS FRANK TO MY MOTHER..

AND THE OLD HAG'S REAC-TION WAS?

.....MUST'A BEEN DEEP.

YOU'VE BEEN GETTING LOST SEARCHING FOR YOUR IDEAL IMAGE OF A MO-THER...

IN THE END, YOU'RE JUST RE-JECTING REALITY.

SOUNDS ABOUT RIGHT.

HAHA-HAHA-HA!

ばしーん! kerschack

SHE SLAPPED ME HARD ENOUGH TO KNOCK ME OVER.

...HEH.

A GIRL WOULDN'T REALLY GET IT.

SHE WASN'T A GIRL, SHE WAS YOUR MOTHER, WASN'T SHE?

YOU'RE REALLY JUST A GIANT CHILD.

AFTER THAT,

YOU'RE JUST A CHILD WHO WILL NEVER BECOME AN ADULT.

I DIDN'T RETURN HOME AT ALL.

HM? SO THEN... YOUR MOTHER'S LAST WISH FOR YOU WAS THAT, WASN'T IT?

...FAMILY, HUH?

—IS WHAT SHE TOLD ME.

YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND WHAT A FAMILY IS AT ALL. YOU REALLY ARE AN IDIOT—

...REALLY DEEP.

YEEEAH, THAT WAS DEEP.

.....

THAT'S A BIG LIE.

I WANNA KNOW WHERE THE HECK SOMETHING LIKE THAT IS FOR ME NOW.

WHO'S MY FAMILY?

THAT'S YOUR LIFE'S THEME!

"UNDERSTAND WHAT A FAMILY IS"—

DON'T WANT 'EM. KIDS?

HOW ABOUT GETTIN' MARRIED AND MAKING A NEW FAMILY?!

THE THOUGHT OF LEAVING BEHIND MY GENES MAKES ME SHUDDER.

shabang!!

HUUH ?!

WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOIN', PAMELA?!

I WON'T LET YOU LAY ONE FINGER ON THEM!!

...I'VE DECIDED!

WHA—

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

...ALL RIGHT, I'LL TELL YA.

Ha.

I MEANT TO KEEP IT QUIET BUT I CHANGED MY MIND.

IN OTHER WORDS, YOUR SPERM AND SOME EGG FROM SOMEWHERE...

IS NOW A FERTILIZED EGG WAITING TO BE BORN.

HOW-EVER—

IT HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH YOUR PER-MISSION.

BECAUSE THAT CHILD WAS FULL OF THE WILL TO LIVE!!

YOU REMEMBER REGISTERING AND PROVIDING SPERM TO THE OFFICE'S BABY BANK, RIGHT?

LAST YEAR THEY STARTED CARRYING OUT THEIR EXTRA BABY PLAN.

DO YOU SEE WHERE THIS IS GOING?

YOUR SPERM WAS USED FIRST.

BOTH YOUR BIO-LOGICAL MOTHER AND MY MOTHER DISCARDED THEIR CHILDREN.

BUT IF IT WEREN'T FOR THEM, WE WOULDN'T BE HERE TODAY!

THAT'S WHY—

SORRY, BUT THE MOTHER FOR YOUR CHILD

IT NEEDS A MOTHER'S BODY IN ORDER TO BE BORN!!

HAPPENS TO BE ME!!

FURTHER-MORE,

NOW I GET WHY YOU FEEL THE WAY YOU DO TOWARDS YOUR BIRTH MOTHER.

FOR A PARENT WHO DOESN'T WANT CHILDREN—

I'M GRATEFUL TO THEM,

NO MATTER WHAT KINDS OF MOTHERS THEY WERE!

SLAM...

Beeeeeh!

I'M NOT GONNA LET YOU

TOUCH THIS KID'S PRECIOUS LITTLE BODY!!! GO BACK T' JAPAN!

To my child?

Pamela will give birth...?

YOU WANT ME TO TELL YOU WHOSE EGG IT WAS REGISTERED AS*?

I CAN'T, THAT'S TOP SECRET.

I DON'T BELIEVE IT.

PAMELA'S THE ONE WHO TOLD YOU THIS?

GEEZ, THAT GIRL... REALLY! SHE CERTAINLY INFRINGES ON POLICIES ALL THE TIME!

As a surrogate mother—?!

*T/N: Text written in this font is spoken in English in the original raws.

WAIT. WAIT!!

AHH... BUT DON'T WORRY. RELAX, NO ONE IS GOING TO PRESS PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITY ON YOU.

JUST FORGET ABOUT IT LIKE YOU HAD A BAD DREAM... BYE.

Slam

I'D LIKE TO REQUEST THE DETAILS—

AH... AH!

WHY WAS PAMELA ASKED TO BE THE SURROGATE MOTHER?!

WHY IS THAT? I WANT THE WHOLE STORY, WHY DID SHE CONSENT TO IT?!

ACTUALLY, I WAS PRETTY SURPRISED MYSELF.

PAMELA'S NICKNAME

I'M PAM'S ATTENDING PHYSICIAN, AFTER ALL.

WHEN SHE TOLD ME ABOUT IT I WAS TAKEN ABACK.

...JEFF.

COME HERE.

MIKURO.

WERE YOU SURPRISED TO HEAR IT?

THE FERTILIZED EGGS FOR THIS PROJECT, THAT

WELL, WHEN WE WERE TRYING TO DECIDE WHO SHOULD BE THE SURRO-GATE MOTHER...

ASKING MS. KAREN ABOUT IT IS USELESS.

SHE'S THE OFFICE VICE DIRECTOR'S RIGHT HAND, AFTER ALL, AND THE HEAD OF THIS PROJECT.

WELL, I'LL AT LEAST TELL YOU WHAT I KNOW SURROUNDING IT BECAUSE YOU'RE THE FATHER!

PAM VOLUNTEERED AS A CANDIDATE... SERIOUSLY.

.....!!

I DON'T KNOW WHY,

BUT MIKURO, SHE'S BEEN PREGNANT FOR A LITTLE LESS THAN TWO MONTHS NOW.

HEARING ABOUT THIS IS PROBABLY GOING TO MAKE YOU EVEN MORE CLUELESS—IT'S WHAT'S REALLY AVANT-GARDE.

ACTUALLY,

THREE MONTHS AGO,

PAM GOT MARRIED TO SOL.

TO BE A FRESH NEWLYWED AND WITH CHILD THAT'S FROM AN UNREGISTERED EGG AND WITH YOU AS THE FATHER...

TO BE HONEST, I FIND IT HARD TO UNDERSTAND.

WHETHER SOL KNOWS OR NOT... I'VE BEEN AFRAID TO ASK.

...BUT, WELL, THE REALITY IS THAT WITH THESE KINDS OF METHODS, IT'S POSSIBLE FOR YOUR CHILD TO BE BORN

...NO, RATHER, YOUR CHILD WILL BE BORN...

DOESN'T PAM LOVE YOU?

MIKURO—

SO THAT'S IT...

I...

I'VE GOT TWO MOTHERS...

WOW.

THEN I'M JUST LIKE DADDY.

PATS

I'M FINE WITH THAT, I'M HAPPY! YOU'VE NEVER HAD ANYTHING T' WORRY ABOUT, DADDY!

LET'S JUST FORGET ABOUT THE MOTHER MY EGG CAME FROM.

I'M REALLY COMFORTED TO KNOW THAT WE HAVE THE SAME PERSONAL HI-STORY!

IT'S FINE, IT'S FINE.

LET'S JUST FORGET ABOUT THE MOTHER MY EGG CAME FROM.

Let me see more, Daddy!

COME ON!!

I WANNA KNOW!

WHAT HAPPENED TO MOM-MY AFTER THAT?!

TELL ME MORE ABOUT PAMELA-MOMMY!

I KNOW YOU DID YOUR BEST TO TELL ME ALL THAT!

...
NEVER!

DADDY, I NEVER THOUGHT I DIDN'T NEED YOU.

...KACHI-KO...

THE TRUTH... THAT LEAD TO

MY BIRTH!!

OH ...?

Daaaaa—

HUH, WHAT, KACHIKO-CHAN?

WAS IT THAT INTER-ESTING?!

SOUTH DAKOTA

IT WAS A STORY ABOUT DADDY AND MOMMY!!

IT WAS!!

DADDY, I'VE DECIDED.

I REALLY DO WANT TO GO TO YOUR APARTMENT IN AMERICA!!

THERE ARE PEOPLE I WANNA MEET AT THE EPIA.

I DON'T WANT THAT!

HUH?

THEN... DAD, I WANT TO GO, TOO!

HOW 'BOUT WE JUST GO TO TAKE A LOOK FIRST?

THAT WAY REN CAN COME, TOO!

LET'S GO TOGETHER!

YEAH, LET'S GO!

...THAT'S RIGHT.

Yeah

I'VE GOT TO GO TOO, HUH?

TO THE EPIA—

...IN THAT CASE,

Hey!

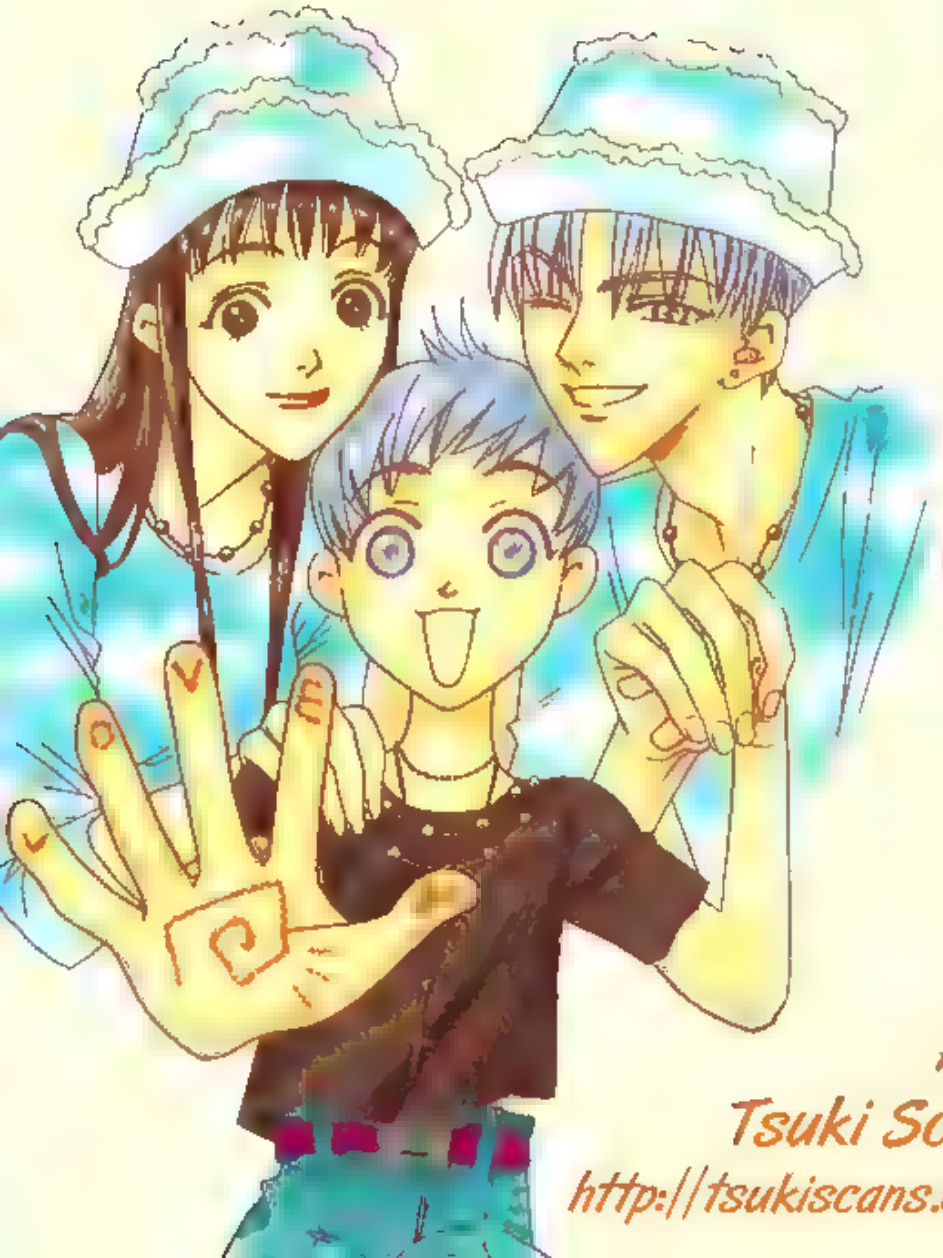
For real?!

BESIDES, WE'RE WORRIED ABOUT KACHIKO AND WANT TO SEE LALE, DON'T WE?

!!!

HUH?!

RIN-KUN... GOING TO THE EPIA...?!



Boku wo Tsutsumu Tsuki no Hikari

Embraced by the moonlight

By Saki Hiwatari V08 ch41

Raw Provider: rawscans.com

Translator: Appaku

Proofreader: Raijin

Cleaner: Sirvia

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Special thanks to Kathie Soto!

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One day in the wonderful world of the Esthetique Realm, a single brave soul approached our admins with the most horrible news ever

What could've been so bad as to render all of our admins totally unconcious?

Shokuji Proofreader

Raijin Translator

Katana Admin

Huh?

FROZEN

Boss? Did you hear me?

WOBBLE

Oh, crap!

Katana-sama! Are you OK?

BONK!

Was it a worldwide shortage of manga? Did Shoujo manga cease to exist?

Oh, no! It was something much more sinister

STAFF SHORT-AGES!

SNAP!

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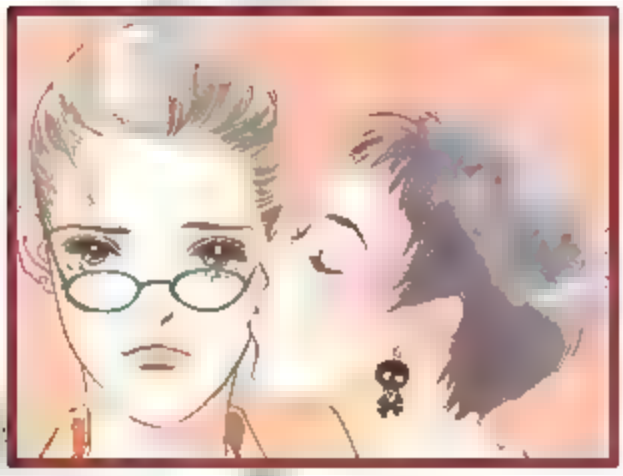

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...I'M VERY SORRY FOR PAYIN' A VISIT IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT, BUT...

RIN-KUN... SAYS HE'S GOING TO THE EPIA!!

PLEASE STOP HIM, ALICE-SAN!!

Kachiko's Circumstances #4

Chapter 42

DO YOU TWO NOT REMEMBER?

REN-KUN ALREADY RAIDED THE EPIA ONCE,

THEY'VE ALREADY CHECKED ON THAT.

SEE VOLUME 1, "KACHIKO'S TEARS"

JUST THINKING ABOUT IT IS SCARY!

TO SAY WHAT'S THE SCARIEST,

THAT WOULD BE THE OFFICE FINDING OUT ABOUT RIN-KUN!

PLEASE REMEMBER YOUR OWN POSITIONS!

DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME AND KACHIKO,

NO MATTER WHAT, I DIDN'T WANT YOU GETTING CLOSE TO THE EPIA-

I TOLD YOU BACK THEN, DIDN'T I?!

...MIKURO-SAN.

Hiwatari's Endless Chattering

6

I came up with Kachiko when I wanted to give Ren a supporting character in the first chapter of "Boku-Tsuki." And thus, she was born.

To be honest, I was a little nervous about the "who's my mother" point. To be totally honest, it still bugs me a little. (Laughs) But manga is raw and alive. I think it becomes what it wants to be. I hope you'll all continue to stick with it.

Keep your feet on the ground and keep reaching for the stars, grow up strong and be well!

Hiwatari Saki,
12/18/2009

I WANT TO TALK WITH THE CHILDREN.
...I'M GOING TO GO HOME FOR A BIT NOW...
REN,
KACHIKO-CHAN... ARE YOU HERE?
WHAAAT? IT'S MOM!
WAH! OBACHAN, I'M RIGHT HERE!!
SOUTH
YES, I SEEM TO BE OKAY RIGHT NOW.
HOW'RE YOU FEELIN? DOING WELL?

...I HEARD, KACHIKO-CHAN,

ABOUT HOW YOU SAID NOT TO WORRY ABOUT YOUR BIOLOGICAL MOTHER...

WOULD THE ADULT MEN PLEASE LEAVE US ALONE?

I JUST WANT TO TALK WITH THE CHILDREN...

...YOU SAID THAT,

DIDN'T YOU...?

KACHIKO-CHAN IS AMAZING!!

THAT'S RIGHT!

YEAH, I DID.

HAVING TWO MOMS MAKES HER LIKE MIKURO-OJISAN,

AND SHE SAID THAT MAKES HER HAPPY!

AND SHE SAID SHE WANTS TO KNOW MORE ABOUT HER BIRTH MOM!!

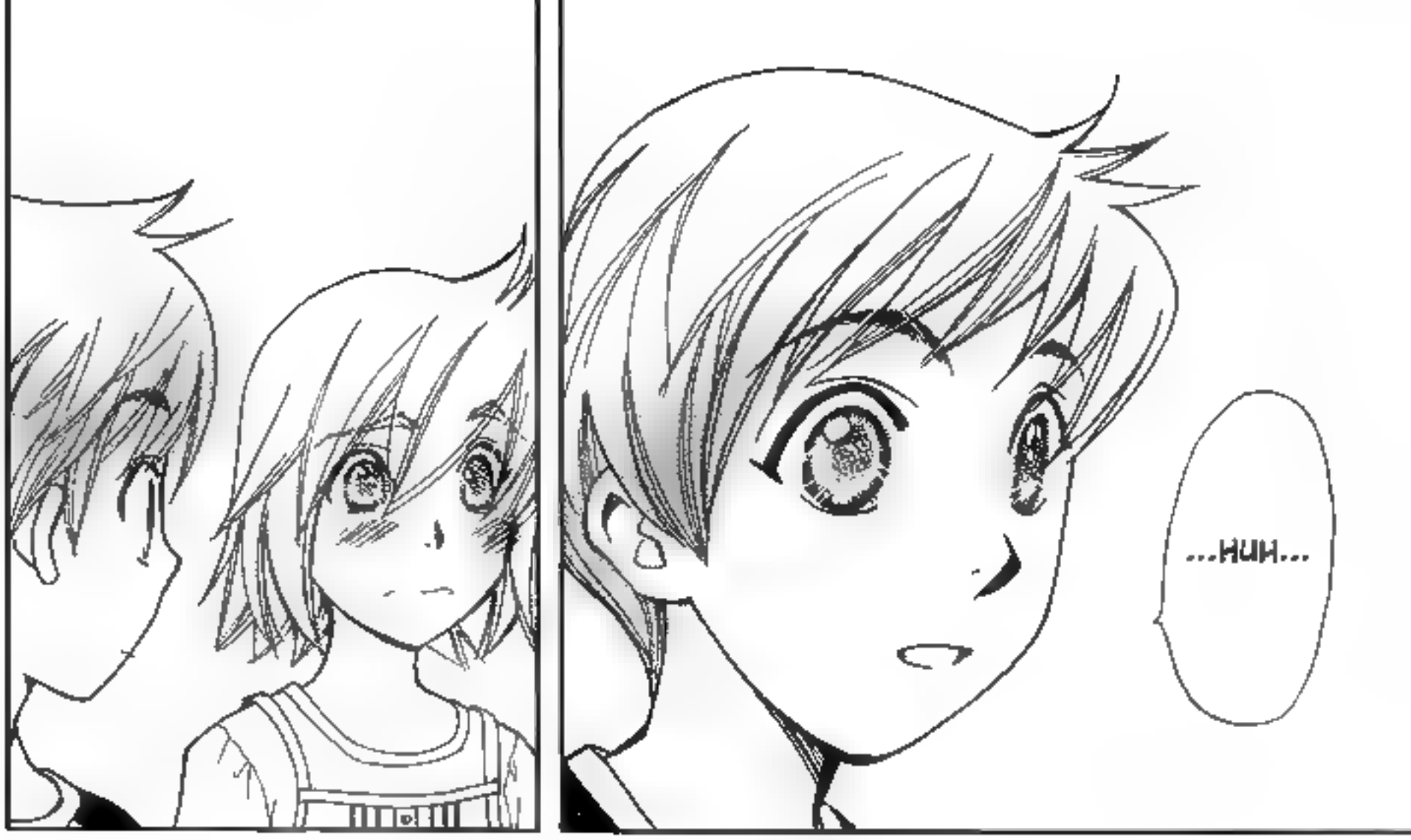
THAT'S WHY IT'S OKAY FOR US TO GO TO AMERICA, ISN'T IT?!

WERE YOU REALLY...

WERE YOU REALLY HAPPY ABOUT IT...?

POKES

I WONDER ABOUT THAT...?


...HUH...

...WE...L...

IF I HAD BEEN SHOCKED...

IT WOULD HAVE HURT DADDY...

I...

DIDN'T WANT THAT...

YOU'RE REALLY SO FULL OF INSECURITIES,

BUT EVEN AT THOSE TIMES, YOU DON'T WANT TO HURT YOUR DAD...

THAT'S SOMETHING ABOUT YOU THAT MAKES ME

KACHIKO-CHAN, YOU'RE TOO KIND.

LOVE YOU.

ALSO...

WOULD YOU LISTEN TO THIS?

THE CELLS OF THE HUMAN BODY... DID YOU KNOW THAT IN JUST THREE MONTHS TIME,

THEY'RE COMPLETELY REPLACED, AND NO LONGER THE SAME?

KACHIKO-CHAN, YOU'VE ALWAYS GROWN UP IN KYOTO,

BUT SINCE YOU'VE COME HERE,

I'VE BEEN THE ONE TAKING CARE OF YOU AND THESE CUTE LITTLE CELLS.

FIXING YOU FOOD TO EAT AND ALL.

EVERY DAY, I'VE BEEN DILIGENTLY RAISING THESE LITTLE CELLS

SO...

YOUR THIRD MOTHER, PERHAPS? ...GO TO AMERICA, AND NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS,

DON'T YOU THINK THAT MAKES ME...

YOU COME FLYING BACK HOME, ALL RIGHT...?

ANYTIME YOU THINK YOU WANT TO EAT MY COOKING,

..I'LL BE WAITING HERE FOR YOU.

I WANT TO PROMISE YOU THAT.

...PLEASE.

.....!

SOUTH DAKOT

REN!

Y-

YES?

HOLD YOURSELF TOGETHER...!

What am I doing-

Kachiko-chan

was really shocked.

I HAVE A REQUEST FOR YOU, TOO.

WHEN YOU GO TO AMERICA,

AS FAR AS YOU ARE ABLE, MAKE SURE TO NEVER LEAVE KACHIKO-CHAN'S SIDE SO SHE WON'T BE ALONE AT ANY TIME.

AND IN MY PLACE,

I WANT YOU TO HOLD HER HAND TIGHTLY.

GOT IT? YOU UNDERSTAND YOUR DUTY?!

SOUTH

.....?

YES!!!

–Ikemen!! Pretty Lady.....!!

I will protect Kachiko-chan in America!!

With my own power alone, I'm sure I'll be able to protect her!

SLUUURRPP...

This time, I shall become a man—!!

AREN'T YOU HUNGRY, MIKURO? YOU WANT SOME, TOO?

YOU WANT SOME, TOO?

NO... I'M...

RIN-KUN, YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND THE GRAVITY OF THE SITUATION.

WHY DO YOU THINK I BROUGHT KACHIKO-CHAN HOME TO JAPAN...

Have you heard of the cuckoo bird?

WASN'T IT BECAUSE YOU WERE INCOMPETENT AND LOOKED FOR A JOB AT A SHADY ORGANIZATION INSTEAD OF RAISING YOUR INNOCENT DAUGHTER YOURSELF

YOU WANTED TO ENTRUST HER TO SOMEONE ELSE TO RAISE?

THAT'S NOT MY POINT—

WASN'T IT IN ORDER TO PROTECT KACHIKO...?!

FROM WHAT? YOU ENTRUSTED HER TO ME TO KEEP HER AWAY

FROM A DANGEROUS PLACE YOU TOOK LALE TO?

LALE'S FINE!

FOR LALE'S, IT'S FULL OF VALUABLE AND USEFUL INFORMATION.

SHE WOULD HAVE HAD A LIFE AS AN ESP USER AND NOTHING ELSE.

IF SHE HAD BEEN BORN, RAISED AND EDUCATED THERE,

BUT FOR KACHIKO, THERE ARE DISADVANTAGES.

SHE'D SPEND HER LIFE AS A TEST SUBJECT.

THEY DON'T CARE WHETHER THEIR TEST SUBJECTS ARE CHILDREN OR FOREIGNERS.

OPENS

IF SOMEONE IS USEFUL, THEY'LL TARGET THEM TO THE END,

AND SOMEHOW COERCE THEM SO THAT THEY CAN'T GET AWAY.

WHAAAAT!

HE CAN LEARN ABOUT ESP

AND PRACTICE CONTROLLING IT,

LATE

AND IT WOULDN'T MATTER IF HE EVER WANTED TO QUIT.

HE'LL BE ABLE TO GET USEFUL INFORMATION FOR FINDING H S ANNE.

THE PRO-BLEM LIES WITH THE BIG FISH.

THERE ARE PLENTY OF LALE'S CALIBER, SO IT WOULDN'T HURT OR BOTHER THEM AT ALL IF HE QUITS.

THEN LALE WON'T BE ABLE TO QUIT?!

IN PARTICULAR,

THE VERY RARE AND HARD TO FIND ONES.

THEY'LL USE THEM UNTIL THEIR ESP RUNS DRY.

THEY'LL INTERFERE WITH THEM,

AND RE-SEARCH THEM,

SUCK THEM DRY OF THEIR BONE MARROW.

FIGURATIVELY, THE EPIA IS... HISTORY'S WORST ESPER AQUARIUM.

Whoa. What the?

WE, THE STAFF, HAVE A CYNICAL NICKNAME FOR IT...

PARADISE.

ON THE OUTSIDE, IT LOOKS LIKE AN INTERNATIONAL AGENCY THAT COLLECTS AND ENJOYS RARE CREATURES FROM THE OCEAN.

THEY DO RESEARCH, AND GENETIC MANIPULATIONS,

AND THEY MUST MANAGE ANY THREATS IF THEY DON'T WANT THEM TO INCREASE.

...MIKURO...

I SEE, YOU...

CAN'T QUIT THE EPIA?

THEY WON'T LET YOU GET AWAY—

IF KACHIKO IS A GOLD-FISH, THEN YOU'RE A BIG TIME WHALE, RIGHT?

THAT'S ALSO THE FUNDAMENTAL REASON YOU WON'T LIVE WITH KACHIKO...!!!

THE ONE I'M TALKING ABOUT IS *YOU*, RIN-KUN!!!

AH—WAS THAT IT?!

ALICE-SAN—

I'M REALLY NOTHING.

COMPARED TO RIN-KUN,

PLEASE TAKE THIS TO HEART.

ALSO,

I'LL BE PUTTING MY WHOLE LIFE INTO THIS, WON'T I?

IF THE EPIA WERE TO FIND OUT ABOUT RIN-KUN,

EVEN IF I SAY I DIDN'T KNOW,

I'M GETTING WHAT I DESERVE FOR ENTERIN' IT OF MY OWN ACCORD.

IT WOULD ONLY BE A MATTER OF TIME BEFORE YOUR ENTIRE FAMILY WOULD BE WRAPPED UP IN THIS AND SPLIT APART.

FOR THE SAKE OF YOUR UNBORN CHILD AS WELL, PLEASE CONVINCE RIN-KUN...

I'LL BE AT A BUSINESS HOTEL.

WHAT.. BUT WHERE WILL YOU BE TONIGHT...?

SHUTS

...THAT ONLY KACHIKO AND I WILL BE GOING TO AMERICA...

I'LL COME BACK HERE TOMORROW MORNIN'.

Snorts—

EE—

EHEE!

...
HEH!
BE-
CAUSE
...!
you
really
...WHAT
ARE YOU
LAUGH-
ING AT?
—
Hahaha
THAT,
IS JUST SO
SERIOUS!
M-KUN
THAT
GUY,
REA...Y
...
NO
MATTER
WHAT?
...RIN-
KUN .. YOU
REALLY
INTEND TO
GO...
BWA
HA!!
...
AND
HE'S SO
WORRIED
ABOUT
NOT BEING
ABLE TO
QUIT!

BUT WITH KACHIKO...

I REALLY DON'T CARE ABOUT WHAT HAPPENS TO MIKURO,

WHO ME?

...YEAH.

I CAN'T STAND TO SEE KACHIKO CRY.

THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT SHION WOULD THINK OF DOING, TOO.

AGAIN, PLEASE SEE VOLUME 1 "KACHIKO'S TEARS"

...YEAH.

SO WE'RE REALLY TALKING ABOUT WHO, IF I DON'T COVER FOR THE KIDS, WILL?

AND REN'S ALREADY DROPPED IN ON THE EPIA,

RIN-KUN,

YOU'RE KIND OF LIKE KACHIKO-CHAN'S SECOND FATHER.

AND

I'M HER THIRD MOTHER.

-AH!!

BWEEEGH—

ARE YOU OKAY?

—I'm not okay—

Boku wo Tsutsumu Tsuki no Hikari

Embraced by the Moonlight

By Saki Hiwatari V08 ch42

Raw Provider: rawscans.com
Translator: Appaku
Proofreader: Raijin
Editor: Sirvia
Qc'er: hkgaines
Special thanks to Kathie Soto!

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Antique

One day in the wonderful world of the Esthetique Realm, a single brave soul approached our admins with the most horrible news ever...

Whisper Whisper Whisper

Shekyl Proofreader

Raijin Translator

Huh?

Katana Admin

FROZEN

Boss? Did you hear me?

WOBBLE

Oh, crap!

Katana-sama! Are you OK?

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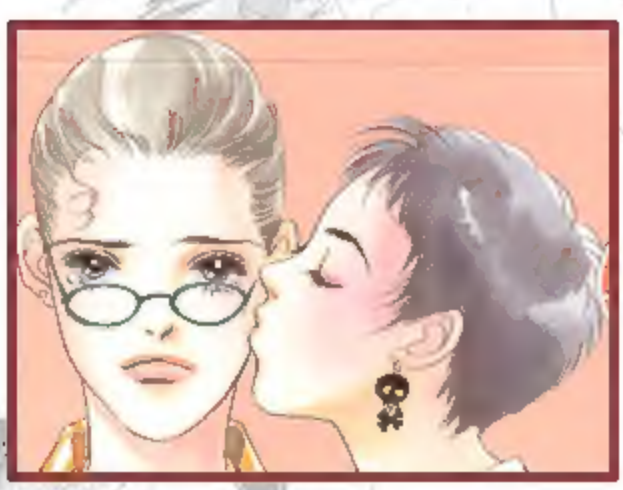

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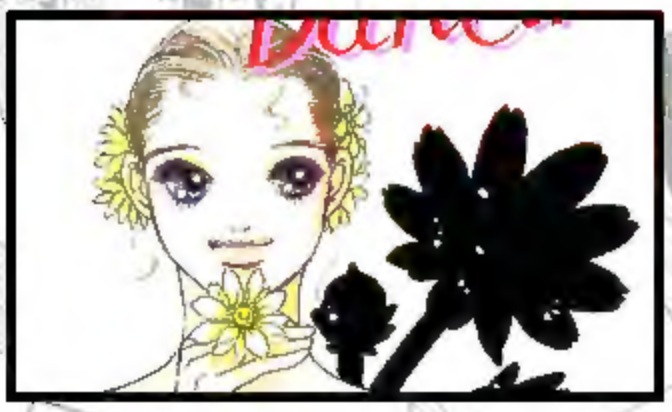

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